

VFW

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

M A G A Z I N E

AUGUST 1985

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AUGUST 16-23, 1985

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ADVERTISING REPRESENTATIVES

Robert B. Greene
Circulation Manager

Stephen L. Keefe
Art Director and Production

Warren C. Mann
Associate Editor

James K. Anderson
Editor

Walter L. Lohr
Director of Public Relations

STAFF

John L. Smith
Publisher and Director of Publications

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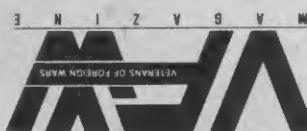
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A Year to Remember



By Billy Ray Cameron
VFW Commander-in-Chief

WITH THE CONCLUSION OF THE 1984-85 year, we all can look back proudly on the accomplishments of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States as we carried out our theme of First . . . Serving America.

The year saw the VFW record its highest membership in the 86 years of our organization—2,020,293—and we can all begin thinking now about reaching three million in the not too distant future.

The growth we have experienced for the past 30 consecutive years is a clear indication that America's eligible veterans regard the Veterans of Foreign Wars as an organization they can trust to work for them and as an organization that can be relied on to put the nation's security first and foremost.

Such growth and success as we have enjoyed this past year have been due to each member of the VFW and the Ladies Auxiliary who has gone that extra mile to bring more and more eligible veterans into our fold. Meeting with as many of you wonderful people as I have during this year as your Commander-in-Chief really has been inspiring. It has made me realize just how many loyal and patriotic Americans there are. All of them, I am confident, would be willing to lay their lives on the line again for our beloved

country.

That is one reason it is so depressing to learn of the Reagan Administration's attempt to ram through Congress legislation that would subject veterans who do not have service connected disabilities to a stringent "means test" when they seek Veterans Administration health care, regardless of their age.

A General Accounting Office estimate is that 40% of elderly veterans now receiving needed medical care from the VA would be denied that care under the proposed means test. A married veteran with assets in excess of only \$15,000 would be labeled "wealthy" and declared ineligible for VA care.

The Administration claims the means test would save \$400 million, but every indication is that it would cost Medicare \$600 million.

You may be certain the VFW will work diligently to prevent passage of any such legislation. If it gets through Congress, thousands of veterans will be denied the care they need and have earned with their blood and sweat.

Needless to say, the VFW will be working to see to it that the VA budget for 1986 will be one all of us can live with and one that safeguards the integrity of VA programs.

This has been a year of anniversaries of special interest to veterans. The end of World War II in Europe was marked on May 8 and the surrender of Japan on Sept. 2.

The issuance of stamps honoring Korean War and World War I veterans finally has given recognition to those two groups. It was a privilege to be present when the Korean War stamp was unveiled and it was through the efforts of the VFW that it came about. Now let us get to work on the National Korean War Memorial. That war began 35 years ago in June, and Americans still are on guard in Korea.

It was sad to see so much television

time devoted to helping the Vietnamese celebrate their defeat of the South Vietnamese 10 years ago. Night after night it went on, virtually for the whole month of April. Let us hope this excessive media attention will not lead the American people to forget our missing-in-action and prisoners in Southeast Asia. More to the point: Will it lead the Vietnamese to think the POW/MIAs have been forgotten? VFW will not forget.

The nation was elated at the release of the passengers held in the hijacked TWA plane in Beirut, but infuriated by the murder of the sailor on the plane. That Reagan Administration success should prompt redoubled efforts to gain a full POW/MIA accounting and release of the seven hostages still held in Beirut.

Vietnam veterans came into their own in New York on May 7 when the city gave them a never-to-be-forgotten ticker tape parade as a belated welcome home.

As your representative and a Vietnam veteran, I was privileged to take part in the New York celebration.

In a telegram to Mayor Ed Koch, I said, "I was deeply honored to be present at the official lighting and dedication of New York's Vietnam Veterans Memorial and thrilled to be able to march down Broadway with you during the long-awaited ticker tape parade which welcomed America's Vietnam veterans home from combat. The people of New York demonstrated that the American people are behind our Vietnam veterans and will support efforts to overcome years of government and public neglect."

While I was honored by the National Vietnam Veterans Network as one of the nation's 10 distinguished Vietnam veterans at the end of May, this was achieved because each and every one of you made it possible by

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Recalls Philippines

"Uncommon Valor" (February) was of interest, not because I participated, but on our way to the Philippines, our ship was laid up in Pearl Harbor for engine repairs for 13 days. We were tied up next to an APA loaded with 3rd Division Marines. All around us was activity. We talked with the Marines who were next to us. All they knew was they were being made ready for "a big jump". All of a sudden one morning after we had been there just over a week, everything began to move. What we saw going out the narrow entrance to Pearl we didn't know, but we felt we were seeing men go out who would never come back in many cases. We learned Iwo was their destination.

"Dash to Manila" (April) brought back memories, too. On March 6, 1945, we had landed on Leyte in the 47th Signal Air Warning detachment. The Daily Pacifican reported news, as did our island GI radio station, of the battles on Luzon, and how Manila was a bloody one in which they threw "everything but the kitchen sink" at the Japanese in Manila. Suddenly near our camp just south of Tacloban, Leyte, we became aware of a camp set up for American civilians who had been liberated in the Battle of Manila and brought there to prepare them for repatriation in America. We saw them—some of the most pitiful persons we had ever seen—still alive. Many seemed in a daze, hardly able to realize they were finally free and it was all over. I knew an Episcopal priest and his family who were among these. The ravages of a long imprisonment and a subhuman diet for 3½ years stay with them to this day.—*The Rev. Theron R. Hughes, Chaplain, Post 588, Concordia, Kans. 66901.*

B-24s Remembered

Dan B. McCarthy's article "Flying Horseman" (March) was certainly well done and brought back dra-

matic memories to those of us who were crew members on B-24s in WWII. I would enjoy getting in touch and sharing some aerial photos taken on flights with veterans of 451st Bombardment Group if they would contact me.—*J.A. Burton, RR 1, Box 252B, South Haven, Minn. 55382.*

Hats Off

Hats off. Salutes to Commander-in-Chief Billy Ray Cameron for "The New Germany and Old Wounds" and to author Fran Dalton for "I'm a Flag Waver" (June). As a rank and file veteran of Korea and Vietnam, my choices are somewhat patriotic and veteran oriented. Reading the Commander's message and "I'm a Flag Waver" reinforced my love of America. To both of you: Hats Off.—*Thomas W. Young, Sr., 830 W. Ansden St., Denison, Texas 75020.*

Commander-in-Chief Billy Ray Cameron's article "The New Germany and Old Wounds" (June) was very appropriate. Following the volatile expressions of opinions on the President's cemetery visit, your moderate comments were most timely.—*Charles W. Hill, 2940 Gage Blvd., Topeka, Kans. 66614.*

WWII's End

With the end of WWII 40 years ago, much will be written about the survivors, but the voices of the true heroes will never be heard, the ones who never made it through to the end. For example in Rottingen, Germany, a couple of the raider platoon became annoyed with their commanding officer and asked to be transferred to their line company. One was killed the next day when the company was flushing out a company of Germans in the closing days of the war. Tiny might have survived to the end of the war had he not asked for the transfer. Gen. George S. Patton congratulated our

division, the 4th Infantry, for saving Luxembourg during the Bulge and last September Luxembourg dedicated a monument to us for this great feat. Tillie Kimmes, of Steinsel, Luxembourg, who helped collect information from many of us, helped in this great endeavor.—*Ed Denko, P.O. Box 494, Uniontown, Pa. 15401.*

Oldest Coast Guardsman Ignored

Charles Albert Lewis, 93, the oldest veteran of the Coast Guard, died at the VA hospital in New Orleans last April 13, but he did not receive a military funeral with honors, a right he earned. The reason? Upon arrival of his remains in Michigan, the Coast Guard told the family this courtesy could not be rendered because of insufficient personnel. He had had 33 years of Coast Guard service. It is with shame that I think that an individual, almost half the age of this nation, has passed into oblivion without as much as a nod from his country.—*Richard J. Scesny, 3400 Garden Oaks Drive, Apt. 220, New Orleans, La. 70114.*

Thanks VFW Posts

During boot camp at the Naval Recruit Training Center in Orlando, Fla., I became seriously ill with pneumonia and spent three weeks over the Christmas holidays in the Naval Hospital there. I felt so alone until Posts 10050 and 8152 visited all the patients.

I finally overcame my illness, graduated from boot camp in January and apprentice school in March. My largest hope now is that I will be able to serve my country as proudly as my father, Sylvester B. Silva, has as a member of the Army/Air Force over the past 37 years. He is now a member of Post 10334 in Waltham, Mass.—*Seaman Pamela J. Witham, 5 Brewster Road, Waltham, Mass. 02154.*

LEGISLATIVE

Korean War Memorial: The 85th National VFW Convention passed Resolution 308 supporting the passage of legislation authorizing the construction of a National Korean War Memorial to honor the 5.7 million men and women who served on active duty in the Armed Forces during the Korea War, the nearly 55,000 who gave their lives, the more than 103,000 who were wounded in action and the 5,178 prisoners of war and those missing in action.

Legislation fulfilling the VFW resolution has been introduced in the 99th Congress by Sen. William L. Armstrong and Reps. James J. Florio and Stanford E. Parris. Sen. Armstrong's bill, S. 1223, is pending before the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee chaired by Sen. Frank H. Murkowski. Florio's bill, H.R. 2205, and Parris's bill, H.R. 2588, are before the House Administration's Subcommittee on Libraries and Memorials, chaired by Rep. Mary Rose Oskar.

VFW has asked to testify when hearings are held on these bills and Commander-in-Chief Billy Ray Cameron has requested members of Congress to cosponsor the pending legislation. Department Commanders were asked to push for advancement of these bills through their Congressional delegations.

* * *

No Taxation of Compensation: As reported in VFW Magazine (June), the Department of the Treasury's original tax reform contained a provision to tax VA compensation to service connected disabled veterans. The President's tax proposal now before Congress, however, contains no such provision. When President Reagan made public his tax package on national television last May 28, he said: "Veterans' disability payments will remain totally exempt from federal taxation. These American veterans have already paid their dues." We believe the face-to-face meeting with Treasury Secretary James A. Baker III in his office with VFW representatives and those of other major veterans' organizations convinced the President to exclude veterans' compensation from federal taxation.

* * *

House Member to Become Judge: Rep. Sam Hall has resigned as a member of the House to accept a federal judgeship in his home state of Texas. A member of Congress for nine years, he served on the Veterans Affairs Committee and had chaired the Subcommittee on Administrative Law and Governmental Relations. He also was a member of the Select Committee on Narcotics Abuse and Control. A veteran himself, he was a friend and advocate of our nation's veterans.

* * *

Veterans Legislation: The Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee has ordered reported the Veterans Administration Adjudication Procedure and Judicial Review Act, S. 367, and the Veterans Administration Health-Care Programs Improvement Act of 1985, S. 876.

The judicial review legislation is similar to that passed by the Senate during the 96th, 97th and 98th Congresses which, in each instance, died when Congress adjourned without action on the bill by the House Veterans' Affairs Committee. The bill would reverse VA policy which denies the right to appeal, require the VA to provide public notification of proposed rule changes, require the periods for public comment prior to issuance of proposed rules changes and permit veterans to pay attorney fees of more than \$10.

The proposed health-care legislation contains the substance of other bills the VFW testified about. Major provisions of S. 876 would:

- Change the definition of the Vietnam Era for the purpose of veterans' benefits by adding service in Vietnam between Feb. 2, 1961, and Aug. 4, 1964.

- Preclude the Administrator from implementing any systematic grade reduction in the VA without first submitting a detailed plan and justification to the Veterans' Affairs Committees.

- Extend until Sept. 30, 1989, health-care eligibility for veterans exposed to herbicides or radiation.

- Extend until Sept. 30, 1988, the VA's authority to place veterans with alcohol or drug abuse disabilities in non-VA half-way houses and other community based facilities for treatment and rehabilitation.

- Provide that remuneration received by VA patients in rehabilitation therapy would not be counted as income for pension purposes.

- Require the VA to establish a three-year pilot program to operate 10 Vietnam Veterans' Resource Centers to provide readjustment, benefits and employment counseling and initial drug/alcohol screening intake and referral services and follow-up.

- Require the VA to conduct a 48-month (Jan. 1, 1986, to Dec. 31, 1989) pilot demonstration program at 10 sites, at least five of them with geriatric evaluation units, for which the VA would furnish medical, rehabilitative and health-related services that would eliminate the need for hospital or nursing home care with priority to veterans over 65, veterans with service connected disabilities and permanently and totally disabled veterans. Services would be through contracts with non-VA providers in at least two of the 10 sites.

- Require the VA to establish and conduct another four-year pilot community-based psychiatric treatment program for chronically mentally-ill veterans with service connected psychiatric disabilities who are institutionalized in VA facilities in order to make

the transition to community living.

Require the VA and the General Accounting Office jointly to develop a new bed-sizing model for replacement or new VA hospitals.

Require the VA to consider purchasing or leasing existing medical facilities to provide health care to veterans.

Require the VA to contract with an appropriate entity for construction and operation of a nursing home and to refer to that facility a sufficient number of veterans to guarantee a specific occupancy rate.

Require the VA in its fiscal year 1987 budget submission to provide a plan for the purchase of an urban medical facility for which purchase authorization would be provided in the fiscal year 1987 or subsequently.

SECURITY

Asia's Importance to U.S. Interests: If current trends continue, United States trade with Pacific basin countries will amount to a fourth of its gross national product by the end of the century. In 1984, U.S. trade reached 31% of the nation's total overseas commerce. Politically, economically and strategically, the Pacific area has become crucial to the U.S. future. But storm clouds have appeared on the horizon. The ANZUS Treaty has been put on hold by New Zealand Prime Minister David Lange's refusal to allow U.S. Navy ships access to his country's ports if the vessels are not certified to be free of nuclear weapons. Lange's action is a form of the isolationism that led to World War II.

Philippines' unstable financial and political condition arising from the murder of President Ferdinand Marcos's opponent, Benigno Aquino, and discontent of jobless sugar field workers and urban slum dwellers has led to stepped-up guerrilla warfare on many major islands by the New Peoples Army.

On the Korean peninsula, the situation is just plain dangerous. Communist North Korea, which launched the invasion of the South Korea 35 years ago, now has a larger army than the U.S. Active Army. North Korea has moved its more than 100,000-strong ranger commando force of shock troops closer to the DMZ. The North also has smuggled in 87 Hughes M-D500 helicopters, the same used by U.S. forces there and the South Koreans. All that is needed to set off renewed warfare is a spark. That might be the 1986 Asian Games in Seoul, South Korea's capital, or the 1988 Olympics, also planned for Seoul. Growing tension on the peninsula is most likely in the coming year.

SERVICE

Mobile Home Builder Settles: Conner Corp., of Newport, N.C., has pleaded guilty to charges of filing false statements with the VA in connection with selling mobile homes in Newport News, Va. Prices were inflated by adding undelivered appliances and furnishings. Under agreement reached in federal court in Roanoke, Va., Conner will make full restitution to any veteran who bought a new Conner mobile home and was overcharged as a result of false invoices submitted to the VA. Veterans who bought one in Newport News during 1983 and 1984 should contact the closest VA Regional Office.

* * *

New GI Bill in Effect July 1: The VA is preparing to implement the new GI Bill that provides educational benefits for persons initially entering service from July 1, 1985, through June 30, 1988. Recruits entering the military during that period will participate in the program unless they decline in writing. Participants' basic pay will be reduced by \$100 a month for the first 12 of service. In return for a two-year enlistment, the government will pay a basic benefit of \$250 a month in educational assistance for up to 36 months following active duty enlistment. For a three-year enlistment, the government will pay \$300 a month for up to 36. The Secretary of Defense may provide up to a \$400 a month "kicker" on top of the basic benefit for those in critical skill areas. He also may pay another \$300 a month to members who serve an additional five years following their original three-year enlistment. Personnel who have had no break in active service since Dec. 31, 1976, and have served on active duty for at least three years after June 30, 1985, may take part with no reduction in their basic pay.

* * *

New VA Chief Benefits Director: Raymond J. Vogel has been named Chief Benefits Director by VA Administrator Harry N. Walters. He will manage a nationwide complex of VA services—educational aid, disability claims, home loan guarantees and vocational rehabilitation. His department has a budget of more than \$15.6 billion and 13,500 employees in 58 Regional Offices. Joining the VA in 1973 as a claims examiner, he became director at the Philadelphia Regional Office, a major center administering most of the huge VA life insurance program. Service disabled during the Vietnam Era, Vogel served in the Army from 1963 to 1965. He is a Wheeling College graduate and has completed graduate studies in public administration at George Washington University. He succeeds Dorothy L. Starbuck, who retired last January as Chief Benefits Director.

National Publication Winners

Commander-in-Chief Billy Ray Cameron, announced the 1984-85 winners of the National Publication Competition.

More than 70 submissions were judged at VFW National Headquarters on content, design, photo and overall quality.

The top three winning publications and editors in each category include:

Department Publications

Published 10-12 Times Annually

- 1st Ohio VFW News - Norman H. Dohn
- 2nd Nebraska VFW News - Einar Fuglemsmo
- 3rd California Veteran - Oren D. Robinson

Published 6-8 Times Annually

- 1st Tennessee VFW News - Charles A. Jones & C. E. Bearden
- 2nd Georgia VFW News - Wynder (Stem) Giles
- 3rd Minnesota Gopher Overseer - John L. O'Neill, Jr.

District and County Council Publications

Letterpress Offset

- 1st Brooklyn-Kings Newsletter (New York) - Thomas J. Nicholas
- 2nd Overseas Veteran, District 21 (Texas) - Charles Gulick
- 3rd Recorder, District 2 (Calif.) Ed Stancart

Mimeograph

- 1st Untouchable News, District 2 (Ill.) - Richard Brand
- 2nd District 4 News (Mich.) - Wayne A. Buck
- 3rd Bull Session, District 9 (Colo.) - Triva Noble

Post Publications

Letterpress Offset

- 1st VFW News, Post 5040 (Woodstock, Ill.) - Donald Peasley
- 2nd Post 131 News (Lincoln, Neb.) - Einar Fuglemsmo
- 3rd Newsletter, Post 8220 (Belton, Mo.) - R.C. Coram

Mimeograph

- 1st Insight, Post 5220 (Oak Lawn, Ill.) - Jim Bennett
- 2nd News, Post 7824 (Vancouver, Wash.) - Bob Schaeffer
- 3rd News, Post 721 (Waukesha, Wis.) - Ariel Huston
- Tie News, Post 9400 (Phoenix, Ariz.) - Post Officers

Commander-in-Chief Cameron said, "The entries this year displayed professional improvement over previous years, according to the judges. All submissions were really winners. In a 2-plus million member organization, communication is critical. Our various state and local publications help fill that necessity."

VFW, Post 5888 Settle

Settlement and dismissal of a lawsuit against the National VFW Organization brought by Post 5888, Santa Cruz, Calif., was announced May 21 by Commander-in-Chief Billy Ray Cameron.

Following a publicly expressed desire for reconciliation by Post 5888 Commander Richard Anderson and a face-to-face meeting with Cameron, the Post will refrain from stating positions, as a Post, which are contrary to the orders and resolutions adopted by the VFW National Convention.

Cameron agreed to reinstatement of the Post charter and in the spirit of reconciliation will appoint two members of Post 5888 to National Convention Committees to give them an opportunity to participate in the democratic process of adopting the resolutions that establish the policy of the organization.

"The VFW acknowledges and encourages the rights of its members to express their feelings and beliefs as individual members of the organization," Cameron said. "Each side recognized the other had acted in good faith. Both are confident the strong sense of comradeship that exists in the organization will allow the issue to be placed behind it."

Cameron had suspended the Post for 60 days last January after it was reported that a Post resolution on Central America was delivered by a Post member (not officer, as originally charged) to Nicaraguan officials and media.

The Post charter was revoked on March 18 for taking a position contrary to lawful orders and reso-

lutions adopted at the VFW National Convention. Subsequently, the Post filed a lawsuit contesting the procedures contained in the VFW National Constitution and By-laws. Early in June, Post 5888 members ratified the settlement.

In addition, the settlement agreement includes this provision:

"Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States agrees that the following statement will be run in the VFW Magazine:

In the course of the lawsuit between VFW Post 5888 and VFW of the United States it was learned that the article printed in the May, 1985, issue of VFW Magazine was in error:

The following changes should be noted:

- A. It was stated that Post 5888 leaders delivered their Post-adopted resolution to Sandinista leaders in Nicaragua as if it were the position of the National Organization.

It has been determined that

- 1. A member of the Post went on his own to Nicaragua and, with the authorization of the Post, took a copy of the resolution with him.
- 2. The resolution was not given to Nicaraguan leaders.
- 3. At no time were representations made that the resolution represented the position of the National Organization.

- B. It was further stated that [The resolution of Post 5888 called for] a policy of self-determination and nonintervention in Central America. In other words, let the Communists have their way.

It has been determined that the Post does not support any government other than the government of the

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Continued from page 14

United States of America.
C. It was stated: Among the distasteful aspects of Post 5888's action is that the Post is composed exclusively of Vietnam veterans and some newspaper accounts have left the impression that this controversy is an outgrowth of a conflict between older and younger veterans — WWII hawks versus Vietnam doves. It has been determined that the Post is composed of 50% Vietnam veterans, 40% WWII vets and 10% Korean and WWI vets. Any difference of opinion on the question of Central America was not based on a generation gap or which war members participated in."

Postal Service Honors Korean War Veterans

When this 22-cent stamp was issued on July 26 to honor Korean

War veterans, the Veterans of Foreign Wars acted as host at the ceremonies held at the Sheraton Grand Hotel in Washington. This was in recognition of the organization's efforts to prevail on the U.S. Postal Service to honor these veterans in this manner. Last year, then Commander-in-Chief Clifford G. Olson, Jr., a Korean War veteran himself, met with Postmaster Gen. William F. Bolger, who retired earlier this year, to urge the stamp's issuance, a longstanding VFW goal.

Postmaster Gen. Paul N. Carlin and Commander-in-Chief Billy Ray Cameron were the principal speakers at the stamp ceremonies, which marked the 32nd anniversary of the signing of the truce that ended the fighting. The Korean War, begun June 25, 1950, was fought under United Nations authorization to halt Communist aggression. Other speakers included Sr. Vice Commander-in-Chief John S. Staum, a Korean War veteran, and Adjutant Gen. Howard E. Vander Clute, Jr., who served during the Korean War Era.

The stamp, designed by Dick Sheaff, of Needham Heights, Mass., is based on a photograph by David Douglas Duncan. A pencil sketch of Duncan's photo done by Robert Anderson was used in the stamp's production.



Small Business Conferences

Veterans interested in the small business field may find helpful the series sponsored by the White House Conference on Small Business, mandated by Congress, to be held in all 50 states and Puerto Rico.

The first ones are Aug. 9, Richmond, Va., Hyatt Regency; Aug. 15,

N A T I O N A L H O M E

National Home Graduates

Eight VFW National Home students have graduated from Eaton Rapids, Mich., High School.

One former National Home resident has completed his studies beyond high school. He is **Dale Erion**, who received his associate degree from Lansing Community College in fire science, plus certificates in arson investigation and as an emergency medical technician. He came to the National Home in October, 1970, sponsored by Ohio Post 1068.

Chris Burk received his Eaton Rapids High School diploma in January. He and his older brother, Lincoln, arrived at the National Home in June, 1977, sponsored by Post 7582 in Delaware.

Kris Crosby, who graduated in

June from Eaton Rapids High School, arrived with her mother and two brothers in June, 1981. They were sponsored by Michigan Post 4090. She plans to attend Lansing Community College to study foods and hopes to become a chef.

She received the \$1,000 one-year MOC vocational scholarship.

Vicki Cowles, another June graduate, came to the National Home last October sponsored by Michigan Post 6986. She intends to study at Lansing Community College for a career in a scientific and humanitarian field, such as physical therapy or nursing.

Renee Greenawalt came to the National Home with her younger sister in November, 1976, sponsored by Pennsylvania Post 7527. She plans

to attend either Grand Rapids, Mich., Baptist College or Cedarville College in Ohio where she will take secretarial and word processing courses.

She received the MOC Auxiliary \$3,000 scholarship for one year, as well as the \$500 Daniel and Nellie Beck award.

Ann Hayes, sponsored by Oregon Post 4307, arrived at the National Home in December, 1982. She wants to be a cosmetologist and has already begun classes in conjunction with her high school studies.

Stacie Parish came to the VFW National Home with her mother and several brothers and a sister in July, 1981, sponsored by Michigan Post 1283. She is looking into a career as a medical office assistant.

Wilmington, Dela., the Radisson; Aug. 20, Birmingham, Ala., Hyatt Regency, and Aug. 23, Atlanta, Ga., Hyatt Regency. Dates for others have not been set.

Among the purpose of the conference is development of recommendations for government action on small business issues, as well as identification of problems of small business. Participants must pay their own expenses. Further information may be obtained from the White House Conference on Small Business, 1801 K Street, N.W., Suite 1101, Washington, D.C. 20006.

B-1B at Texas Base

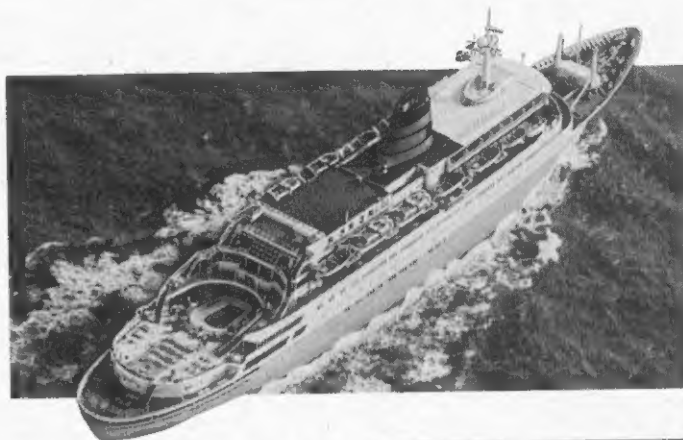
To write a new chapter in the history of Texas, the Air Force's first operational B-1B aircraft, a major boost to U.S. defense long advocated by the VFW, entered active service at Dyess Air Force Base in Abilene on June 29.

Perry Roy and his younger brother and sister have lived at the National Home since July, 1982. They were sponsored by Indiana Post 802. He hopes to find employment in Baton Rouge, La., and would like to become a radio disc jockey.

Michelle Striegel came to the National Home with her two younger sisters in November, 1981, sponsored by Kentucky Post 8639. She plans to attend Hope College in Holland, Mich., majoring in mathematics. Teaching is her goal.

She won the top Christie J. Braun MOC Scholarship of \$3,000 a year for four years, plus the \$500 Daniel and Nellie Beck award.

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Dec. 19	16 days	TransCanal
Dec. 21	15 days	Caribbean
Jan. 6	14 days	TransCanal
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Official Call

86th National Convention

Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States

Assembling for the 86th National Convention of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, delegates from all parts of the country and a variety of overseas areas will address major concerns facing veterans in the areas of veterans' rights, entitlements and programs and the fundamental security of our beloved United States.

The VFW will be unhesitating in singling out those issues and will vigorously press for solutions. Nor will this Organization be unsparing in its criticism of those it deems responsible for shortcomings wherever they exist.

On the veterans' front, the VFW will continue to press for a Veterans Administration budget that will assure the continuation of programs

and entitlements granted by a grateful American people to those who took up arms in this nation's defense.

This Organization will continue to oppose those elements inside and outside government that would dilute, erode or otherwise endanger the hard-won gains made by this nation's veterans over the years.

Further, this Organization will not tolerate any disrespect or denigration of Vietnam veterans or the cause for which they fought — and they were never defeated in the field.

On defense, this Organization will continue to fight for the latest equipment for our nation's fighting men, the application of the latest technology to defend our country against any type of surprise attack, punishment to the fullest extent of the

law of those convicted of selling defense secrets to any American adversary, and a defense budget that will assure this nation's security.

Further, this Organization will call for support for democratic forces around the world that are threatened by Communist aggression and continued efforts to counteract state-sponsored terrorism. Nor will this Organization weaken in its demands for an accounting of the American men missing in action in Southeast Asia and the return of any American prisoners still held in that region.

It is our prayerful wish that our deliberations will be fruitful and the goals we set for our coming year will be achieved.

Yours in Comradeship,

Billy Ray Cameron, Commander-in-Chief

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Schedule of Events

Dallas, Texas — August 16-23, 1985

FRIDAY, AUGUST 16

- 9 a.m. **Registration - VFW** Parquet A & B
Dallas Convention Center
- 12 Noon **Registration - Ladies Auxiliary** Fairmont Hotel

SATURDAY, AUGUST 17

- 9 a.m. **Registration - VFW** Parquet A & B
Dallas Convention Center
- 9 a.m. **Registration - Ladies Auxiliary** Fairmont Hotel
- 10 a.m. **Ladies Auxiliary Council of Administration** Fairmont Hotel
- 1 p.m. **Parade Meeting (Parade Committee and Department Commanders)** Latmore A & B
Hyatt Regency Dallas
- 2 p.m. **VFW Council of Administration** Parquet C
Dallas Convention Center
- 4 p.m. **Catholic Mass** Cascade Ballroom A
Hyatt Regency Dallas
- 5:30 p.m. **Annual Military Parade**

SUNDAY, AUGUST 18

- 8 a.m. **Church Service - Catholic** Parquet C
Dallas Convention Center
- Church Service - Protestant** Parquet D
Dallas Convention Center
- 8:30 a.m. **Registration - Ladies Auxiliary** Fairmont Hotel
- 9 a.m. **Registration - VFW** Parquet A & B
Dallas Convention Center
- 9:30 a.m. **Annual Memorial Service** Arena
Dallas Convention Center
- (Buses will transport VFW and Ladies Auxiliary members from their respective hotels to the Dallas Convention Center starting at 7 a.m. Buses will transport delegates to the Hyatt Regency Dallas for the Awards Luncheon following the Memorial Service.)
- 12 noon **Awards Luncheon** Reunion Ballroom
Hyatt Regency Dallas
- 2:30 p.m. **Veterans Service Committee meeting** S-308
Dallas Convention Center
- 3 p.m. **Ladies Auxiliary Opening Ceremony** Fairmont Hotel
- 9 p.m. **Western Conference Caucus** Reunion Ballroom
Hyatt Regency Dallas
- 9 p.m. **Eastern Conference Caucus** Reunion Ballroom A & B
Hyatt Regency Dallas
- 9 p.m. **Southern Conference Caucus** Reunion Ballroom E & F
Hyatt Regency Dallas
- 9 p.m. **Big Ten Conference Caucus** Reunion Ballroom G & H
Hyatt Regency Dallas

MONDAY, AUGUST 19

- 8 a.m. **Registration - Ladies Auxiliary** Fairmont Hotel
- 9 a.m. **Registration - VFW** Parquet A & B
Dallas Convention Center
- 9 a.m. **Joint Opening Session** Arena
Dallas Convention Center
- (Buses will transport VFW and Ladies Auxiliary members from their respective hotels to the Dallas Convention Center starting at 7:30 a.m. Buses will transport delegates to their respective hotels immediately following the close of the Joint Opening Session.)
- Presiding:** Ted C. Connell, Chairman, Board of Directors, VFW 86th National Convention
- Greetings:** the Honorable Mark White, Governor, State of Texas
- Greetings:** the Honorable A. Starke Taylor, Jr., Mayor, City of Dallas
- Introduction:** Bobbie A. Birdett, Supreme Commander, MOC
- Introduction:** Glenneta Vogelsang, President, Ladies Auxiliary to the VFW
- Introduction:** Presentation of Flags by Ladies Auxiliary to Governor and Mayor
- Introduction:** Billy Ray Cameron, Commander-in-Chief, VFW
- Principal Address**
- 2 p.m. **Meetings**
- Americanism, Community Activities, Loyalty.**

- Safety & Youth Activities** E-410
Dallas Convention Center
- By-Laws, Rules and Procedure & Ritual** E-302
Dallas Convention Center
- Finance and Internal Organization** E-301
Dallas Convention Center
- General Resolutions** Parquet D
Dallas Convention Center
- National Security & Foreign Affairs** Parquet C
Dallas Convention Center
- Veterans Service** S-308
Dallas Convention Center
- VFW Political Action Committee** S-303
Dallas Convention Center

6 p.m. Reception for Distinguished Guests

- General Reception** Concourse-Reunion Ballroom
Hyatt Regency Dallas
- 7 p.m. **Distinguished Guests Banquet** Reunion Ballroom
Hyatt Regency Dallas

TUESDAY, AUGUST 20

- 8 a.m. **Registration - Ladies Auxiliary** Fairmont Hotel
- 8:30 a.m. **Ladies Auxiliary Business Session** Fairmont Hotel
- 9 a.m. **Registration - VFW** Parquet A & B
Dallas Convention Center
- 9 a.m. **VFW Business Session** Arena
Dallas Convention Center
- 2 p.m. **Post Development Meeting** Parquet C
Dallas Convention Center
- 2 p.m. **VAVS Conference** Parquet D
Dallas Convention Center

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 21

- 7:30 a.m. **All American Commanders Breakfast** Cascade Ballroom
Hyatt Regency Dallas
- 8 a.m. **Registration - Ladies Auxiliary** Fairmont Hotel
- 8:30 a.m. **Ladies Auxiliary Business Session** Fairmont Hotel
- 9 a.m. **Registration - VFW** Parquet A & B
Dallas Convention Center
- 9 a.m. **VFW Business Session** Arena
Dallas Convention Center
- 2 p.m. **Department Commanders and National Officers Conference** Parquet C
Dallas Convention Center

THURSDAY, AUGUST 22

- 8 a.m. **Registration - Ladies Auxiliary** Fairmont Hotel
- 8:30 a.m. **Ladies Auxiliary Business Session** Fairmont Hotel
- 9 a.m. **Registration - VFW** Parquet A & B
Dallas Convention Center
- 9 a.m. **VFW Business Session** Arena
Dallas Convention Center
- 2 p.m. **VFW Programs** Parquet C
Dallas Convention Center
- 2 p.m. **National Home Meetings** Parquet D
Dallas Convention Center
- 7 p.m. **Dixie Banquet** Reunion Ballroom
Hyatt Regency Dallas
- 7 p.m. **Eastern Banquet** Grand Ballroom
Dallas Hilton Hotel
- 7 p.m. **Western Banquet** Grand Ballroom
Dallas Sheraton Hotel
- 7 p.m. **Big Ten Banquet** Reunion Ballroom
Dallas Fairmont Hotel

FRIDAY, AUGUST 23

- 8:30 a.m. **Ladies Auxiliary Business Session** Fairmont Hotel
- 9 a.m. **VFW Election and Installation of Officers** Arena
Dallas Convention Center
- 2 p.m. **VFW Council of Administration** Parquet C
Dallas Convention Center

Texas Rich in History

Chances are that if you served in any of the last two or three wars the United States has been involved in, you spent a little time in Texas.

So if you are planning to attend the 86th National VFW Convention in Dallas from Aug. 16 to 23, you will have a few military memories of the Lone Star State—or naval or air, or even both for that matter.

Be sure, however, if you are going to the Convention to register by using the accompanying coupon since it will save you \$2 on the \$8 registration fee. Of course, since 1977, each Post is required to register at least one delegate.

During World War II, Texas was the location of 16 Army camps or forts where huge numbers of GIs trained for the fighting in either the European or Pacific theaters. Only California had more.

Some are still partly in use and one, Fort Hood—Camp Hood, as it was known 40 years ago—is one of the Army's largest and most important installations. It is now the home of the 1st Cavalry Division. During World War II, tankers and tank destroyers trained there.

What has happened to some of the old camps?

Camp Swift, near Austin but closer to Bastrop, is still used partly by the Texas National Guard. Part of Camp Fannin, not far from Tyler, is the site of a University of Texas medical

center and industrial facilities.

Camp Maxey at Paris is still used by National Guard units. Both Camp Bowie at Brownwood and Camp Barkley at Abilene are National Guard installations.

But who can forget Camp Howze at Gainesville, Camp Hulén at Palacios or Camp Wolters at Mineral Wells? Certainly not the hundreds of thousands who trained there.

Some old military posts passed from the scene during World War II. There were Fort Clark at Brackettville and Fort Ringgold at Rio Grande City, both declared surplus in 1944 as cavalry posts. Fort Clark is now a resort development and Fort Ringgold is now part of the local school system. Fort D.A. Russell at Maria, Fort McIntosh at Laredo and Fort Brown at Brownsville, all cavalry posts, too, managed to survive the war. The last two are now state colleges and museums. Fort Russell houses the Art Museum of the Pecos.

Since so many of the old training camps were scattered throughout the state, they or their sites may be reached by Convention delegates going to Dallas from almost any part of the country.

As veterans well remember, San Antonio is filled with military installations, not to mention the Alamo. Fort Sam Houston, Randolph Field Brooks Field, Kelly Field and Lackland Air Force Base should stir

feelings of nostalgia. All are going strong.

And Navy pilots are still training at Corpus Christi.

Veterans of glider infantry units will find the Silent Wings Museum at the municipal airport at Terrell, not far from Dallas, of interest. Among the displays arranged by the Military Glider Pilots Association is the restored Waco CG4-A troop transport glider of World War II, as well as hundreds of photos. Restoration of the Waco took five years and \$30,000. It is only one of four left in the world. During the war 13,909 of them were produced.

Several old cavalry forts, long since deactivated by the military, have been restored and are open to visitors.

Among them are Fort Croghan at Burnet, Fort Duncan at Eagle Pass and Fort Davis near Alpine. All played important roles in the westward movement of settlers in the last century and are rich in history. Abandoned in 1878, Fort Richardson at Jacksboro was the most northerly cavalry base in a ring of post-Civil War forts built to control the Indians. Much of it remains as it was more than 100 years ago.

Near El Paso is Fort Bliss, an active Army post established in 1848 after the Mexican War as a defense against hostile Indians and to assert U.S. authority over land acquired as a result of that war. An adobe replica of the original fort is maintained as a museum. Fort Bliss is an Army rocket research and training installation. The Museum of the Noncommissioned Officer, containing artifacts dating back to the Revolutionary War, is at nearby Biggs Army Airfield.

At Harlingen is the Confederate Air Force Museum of World War II era aircraft, restored and in flying condition. For that matter, they are flown by these 20th-century "rebels."

Navy veterans may be interested

Register in Advance for the 1985 Convention

(Make checks or money orders payable to VFW 86th National Convention)

VFW 86th National Convention
Hyatt Regency Dallas at Reunion
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Dallas, Texas 75207

Enclosed is my ☐ check ☐ money order in the amount of \$6. Register my name or the name and number of our VFW Post for representation at the 86th National Convention in Dallas, Texas, Aug. 16-23, 1985. Do not enclose your delegate or alternate credentials with this form (Please type or print name and address.)

Name VFW Post State

Address

City and State Zip



The Dallas Convention Center will be the site of the 86th National VFW Convention from Aug. 16 to 23. Like everything else in Texas, the center is big. Exhibit space is more than 700,000 square feet; arena seats 10,000 and the theater 1,770.

in visiting the Battleship Texas at San Jacinto Battleground State Historical Park in Houston. The park is the site of the battle where the Texans won their independence from Mexico 150 years ago. The Texas, a veteran of both world wars, was presented to the state by the Navy and is permanently moored at the park. It is the last of the dreadnought class. At least 250,000 persons visit the ship each year.

Speaking of Texas independence from Mexico, the 150th anniversary of the event will be celebrated next year, but even so, several points of interest might be placed on a visitor's agenda this year.

For example, San Jacinto Battleground itself is one. At Gonzales are a replica of the cannon that fired the first shot of the Texas War of Independence on Oct. 2, 1835, and a memorial to the men from the town who were killed at the Alamo in San Antonio. At Goliad is the grave of Jim Fannin and 342 of his men who

surrendered to the Mexicans, only to be massacred on March 27, 1836. "Remember Goliad" became a battle-cry during the war.

Sam Houston, twice president of Texas, is buried at Huntsville. As one of the prominent early Texans who lived in Huntsville, he is remembered with a monument, museum and several buildings where he lived and maintained offices.

Texas is the birthplace of two United States Presidents, Dwight D. Eisenhower and Lyndon B. Johnson, who also was Vice President, and Vice President John N. Garner, who served two terms with Franklin D. Roosevelt.

The white, two-story, frame house where Eisenhower was born in Denison in 1890 has been restored to its original appearance and is maintained by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department as a state historic site. Seven miles northwest is 450-acre Eisenhower State Park on Lake Texoma.

Three sites are devoted to Johnson.

There is his birthplace at Stonewall, a replica of the four-room home where his family lived. The tour includes the birthplace, the LBJ Ranch, one-room school, his grave in the family cemetery and the national historic park named for him. LBJ State Park there is 710 acres and includes wildlife, restored pioneer cabins and picnic grounds. Johnson City, site of the President's family's settlement, contains much Johnson lore. The Lyndon B. Johnson Library and Museum in Austin contains many archives and memorabilia relating to his administrations.

Uvalde, the home of Garner, contains the Garner Memorial Museum that houses a wide variety of mementos from his long political career. Thirty-one miles north is Garner State Park.

Rich in history, Texas has much to offer visitors as delegates to the 86th National VFW Convention will find out. ■

Proposed Amendments to National By-Laws

The following proposed amendments are published for consideration by the 86th National Convention.

B-1

Proposed by Department of California

Section 302 - Composition of County Council

Amend Section 302, National By-Laws, by inserting the words "Past National Council Members" following the words "Past Department Commanders" in subparagraph 3 thereof.

B-2

Proposed by Department of California

Section 403 - Composition

Amend Section 403, National By-Laws by deleting subparagraph 2 in its entirety and substituting the following subparagraph 2 in lieu thereof:

"2. The National Council of Administration member and Past National Council of Administration members who are in good standing in a Post in the District."

B-3

Proposed by Department of California

Section 504 - Composition

Amend Section 504, National By-Laws, by inserting the words "all Past National Council Members" following the words "The National Council Member" in subparagraph 2 thereof.

B-4

Proposed by Department of Arizona

Section 1301 - Amendments

Amend Section 1301, National By-Laws, by inserting the words "a District" after the words "a County Council" in the first sentence thereof.

B-5

Proposed by Department of Arizona

Section 222 - Delegates, County Council, District, Department and National Conventions

Amend Section 222, National By-Laws, by deleting the words "in advance" in the second paragraph of subsection (d) thereof.

B-6

Proposed by Department of Tennessee

Section 1102 - Eligibility

Amend Section 1102, National By-Laws, by adding the following paragraph thereto:

"A non member widow of an ex-serviceman who has married a man not eligible to the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States is not eligible to membership in the Ladies Auxiliary through the first man's service unless the marriage has been terminated by death or dissolved by a court of law."

B-7

Proposed by Commander-in-Chief

Section 108 - Right of Appeal

Amend Section 109, National By-Laws, by adding the following to subparagraph (a) thereof:

"Notwithstanding anything herein the right of appeal of any member removed from the membership rolls by order of the Commander-in-Chief for ineligibility is forfeited."



Proposed by Commander-in-Chief

Section 110 - Rights of Members

Amend Section 110, National By-Laws, by adding the following thereto:

"Any member removed from the membership rolls by order of the Commander-in-Chief for ineligibility shall forfeit all rights and privileges as a member and shall be relieved of any elected or appointed office in the Veterans of Foreign Wars. In such event no refund of annual dues will be made."



Proposed by Commander-in-Chief

Section 211 - Suspension and Revocation of Charter

Amend Section 211, National By-Laws, by adding the following to subparagraph (a) thereof:

"Resolutions adopted by the National Convention shall be lawful orders of the National Convention and such duly adopted resolutions shall be laws and usages of the organization. Any public communication and or promulgation by Posts of Resolutions contrary to Resolutions adopted by the National Con-

vention shall be in violation of the laws and usages of the organization and the lawful orders of the National Convention and shall be cause for the immediate suspension of the charter of any Post found to be in such violation and if action to comply with the By-Laws is not taken before the end of the suspension period, the charter of such Post shall be cancelled by the Commander-in-Chief and such cancellation shall be without recourse and irrevocable."

B-10

Proposed by Departments of Minnesota, North Carolina and Ohio

Section 718 - Political Action Committee

Amend Section 718, National By-Laws, by deleting Section 718 in its entirety.

B-11

Proposed by Department of Texas

Section 217 - Nomination, Election, Installation and Term of Office

Amend Section 217, National By-Laws, by adding the following paragraph thereto:

"Should an election conducted by printed ballot not result in one candidate having a majority, the candidate with the plurality shall be declared the winner."

Proposed Amendments to Manual of Procedure

The following proposed amendments are published for consideration by the 86th National Convention.



Proposed by Departments of Connecticut and Minnesota

Section 101 - Eligibility

Amend Section 101, Manual of Procedure, by the addition at the end of the section of a new eligibility category as follows:

"National Defense Service	
Medal (30 consecutive	27 June 1950
days or 60 days not con-	27 July 1954
secutive duty outside the	and
continental limits of the	1 Jan. 1961
United States)	15 Aug. 1974"



Proposed by Department of Kansas

Section 218 - Officers, Powers and Duties

Amend Section 218, Manual of Procedure, by inserting the word "District" following the word "Department" in the third sentence of the first paragraph of the subsection titled "Duty of Quartermaster."



Proposed by Department of Minnesota

Section 101 - Eligibility

Amend Section 101, Manual of Procedure, by the addition at the end of the section of a new eligibility category as follows:

"Overseas service with	3 March 1946
United States Armed Forces	
assigned or attached to units	
serving with NATO, SEATO or	to
OAS forces (30 consecutive	
days or 60 days not	Date to be
consecutive duty	announced
outside the continental	by the U.S.
limits of the United States)	Government."



M-4 Proposed by Department of Minnesota

Section 516 - Nomination, Election, Installation and Term of Office

Amend Section 516, Manual of Procedure, by deleting the next to the last sentence of the first paragraph and substituting in lieu thereof the following sentence:

"Should there be no election on the first roll call, the name of the nominee receiving the lowest number of votes shall be dropped and so on in successive roll calls until an election is made."

KOREA:

1950 - 1953

Three
who
were
there
recall
the
war

E

EARLY DAYS OF THE KOREAN

War were bleak ones, as Americans and South Koreans recovered from the shock of the North Korean invasion. Three 8th Army divisions were sent from Japan in the first few days and weeks—the 24th and 25th Infantry and 1st Cavalry—to help stem the tide. The Inchon landing put the UN forces on the offensive. When North Korea's capital, Pyongyang, was taken Oct. 20, 1950, the Chinese Communists entered the war as UN troops reached the Yalu River. Chinese intervention had dire consequences, felt until the truce was signed on July 27, 1953.

The writer, now living in Fresno, Calif., where he is a member of Post 2587, was a platoon sergeant in Co. F, 9th Infantry, 2nd Infantry Division, in Korea. The division was at Fort Lewis, Wash., when the Korean War began, but it arrived in Korea early in August, the first Army division to be sent to Korea directly from the United States. The 29th ACV came from Okinawa. On Aug. 2, 1950, more than 6,000 Marines in the 1st Marine Brigade landed at Pusan from the U.S. and at about the same time the 5th ACV arrived from Hawaii. America was committed in earnest to halting Communist aggression in Korea.

In this 1950 snapshot, Coleman, left, and George Rainwater, wearing helmet, pose on the 38th Parallel while awaiting orders to move north. Rainwater was taken prisoner by the Chinese and repatriated at war's end.



THE FIRST FEW DAYS in Korea in August, 1950, were most memorable for me because of the absolutely miserable heat and the high humidity, not to mention the seemingly perpetual shortage of drinking water.

But we were not there long before we had other things to concern ourselves with because heavy action soon began on the Nakdong River along which we had formed a defense line. The river formed the western flank of the Pusan Perimeter.

As I recall it was around Sept. 1 when the North Koreans launched a heavy night attack across the river. Those of us who survived managed to withdraw under cover of darkness after suffering heavy casualties.

After daylight, we joined with the units in our rear, engineers and tankers, assigned to the division. We managed to halt and contain the North Korean offensive and reassemble and reorganize our scattered units. Gradually, we forced our way north again in the face of heavy resistance.

[On Sept. 15, Gen. Douglas A. MacArthur's Inchon X Corps landing was made in the rear of the North Koreans. The date was chosen to coincide with the peak tides to allow full maneuver of the fleet off Inchon. The USS Missouri rushed to Korea from Norfolk, Va., to shell the coast. The 1st Marine Division, composed of Marines from the Pusan perimeter, the U.S. and elsewhere, made the landings with followups by elements of the 7th Infantry Division and the 187th Airborne RCT. By Sept. 26 Seoul had been retaken by U.S. and South Korean troops.]

The landings at Inchon severed the North Koreans' supply lines and communications. Resistance on our front faded as they withdrew in an attempt to get around our troops fanning out from Inchon. We made long advances in what had been enemy territory. Seoul was recaptured and we continued on to the 38th Parallel where we were ordered to halt.

After a few days on the 38th, we

resumed our advance against increasing resistance and on to Pyongyang, the North Korean capital. As we moved north in November, 1950, we encountered scattered resistance by Chinese units. [Elements of 11 Chinese divisions had been identified. At Unsan, the 1st Cavalry Division was surprised by Chinese horsemen and Russian MiG-15s appeared.] The Chinese units withdrew; we advanced. The next day it was the same thing all over again. By Thanksgiving we had had a lot of contact with the Chinese. The weather was miserable, freezing cold and snow.

On Nov. 26, we had outposts and strongpoints on the high ground around a valley near Kunu-ri. After dark, we experienced heavy attacks by the Chinese. Then we were ordered to withdraw from the high ground and assemble in the valley at our company command post. The attacks grew heavier as we started to withdraw from the CP down a dirt road.

We took cover behind tanks and around vehicles as they moved down the dirt road around a rice paddy. Flames from a burning, knocked-out tank lit up the surrounding area. I stumbled over something on the road and fell down hard. By the time I got to my feet, the platoon was far ahead of me. I knew the road up front angled to the left. I decided it was best to cut across country to the left to intercept and rejoin the company beyond the bend in the road. Then bullets from a machine gun began thudding around me. I dropped to my knees and started crawling. Suddenly I felt a sharp shock and blow to my right hand. I had been hit by machine gun fire.

The M-1 rifle I had been carrying in my right hand was shattered and useless, but the .45 automatic pistol in my shoulder holster was undamaged. With some difficulty, I managed to get it out and pull the slide back to cock it. I continued to crawl forward slowly.

Then fewer than 50 feet away, I saw silhouetted against the light from the still-burning tank a Chinese

machine gun squad crouched around a heavy water-cooled machine gun intent on our troops and vehicles working their way down the road to extricate themselves from this situation. I considered in desperation my chances of leaping up and attacking the Chinese alone and armed only with the .45.

As these thoughts were crossing my mind, I made a slight noise when I shifted my body to get into a slightly better position to observe the Chinese. A Chinese soldier moved off to my front from the machine gun about 30 feet and raised his rifle. Then he fired in my direction. I hugged the ground as the slugs churned up the dirt all around me. He was extremely cautious. After firing a few rounds, he decided no one was there and returned to his position at the machine gun.

At that point, I began crawling back the way I had come and worked around the Chinese to reach the road. To get a little more speed, I rose to my knees. Then the machine gun opened fire again. More slugs hit the ground near me, and I felt a sharp blow to my left leg. This knocked me flat onto the ground. Fortunately, no bone was hit so I was able to continue crawling. After

making my way a short distance, I rose to my feet and began running toward the road and the American column. As I neared, I saw one of our tanks with some of our men on it. I shouted to them. One of them who turned in my direction was a Co. F officer, Lt. Pat Parkes, standing on the tank and firing its .50 caliber machine gun. (Later wounded, he was captured and died in captivity.)

The men recognized me and helped me to the tank. After pointing in the direction of the Chinese machine gun, Lt. Parkes turned his gun toward it and fired several rounds.

Weakened from loss of blood, I was lowered into the tank by the crew and we continued down the road toward the burning tank. In a short time, we broke through the Chinese and arrived at a regimental aid station where I was removed from the tank. The aid station was full of casualties, many of whom I recognized from my company.

It was not long before we were taken by ambulances and loaded onto C-47s to be flown to an evacuation hospital. When we got there, it was already full of casualties lying on litters on the floor or anywhere else there was room.

Korea a Mini-World War

President Harry Truman may have called the Korean War a "police action," but the three-year struggle had all the earmarks of a mini-world war, fought as it was under United Nations sponsorship as collective security against Communist aggression.

Besides the United States, which had by far the largest foreign combat contingent in Korea, 15 countries contributed units in the fighting that began June 25, 1950, and ended with the signing of the truce on July 27, 1953.

Britain and Turkey each sent a brigade, and Britain also had one aircraft carrier, two cruisers and eight destroyers in Korean waters. Canada committed an infantry brigade, one artillery group and an

armored battalion. Australia's contribution was two infantry battalions, a fighter squadron, a transport squadron, two destroyers and one frigate.

Other countries sending troops were Thailand, a regimental combat team; France, an infantry battalion and a gunboat; Greece, an infantry battalion and air transport squadron; New Zealand, an artillery group and two frigates; the Netherlands, an infantry battalion and a destroyer; Colombia, an infantry battalion and one frigate; Belgium, Philippines and Ethiopia, one infantry battalion each; Luxembourg, one infantry company, and the Union of South Africa, one fighter squadron.

Denmark, Norway, Sweden, India and Italy sent medical units. ■

JACK W. BAUER

Jack W. Bauer, a World War II paratrooper, was one of thousands of Army reservists called to active duty for service in the Korean War as a rifleman replacement in Co. F, 38th Infantry, 2nd Infantry Division.



From left, Bauer, Jack Burke and Herman Rusth mug for a buddy picture. Rusth carries an M-1 sniper rifle. In early 1951, he became a casualty of an enemy sniper. Bauer carries an M-2 carbine which he said "came in handy on Hill 325 when those human wave attacks were washing over us."



JOHN WASYLIK

Dr. John Wasylik, who served as VFW Commander-in-Chief 1977-78, is a veteran of 7th Division service during the Korean War.

Wasylik, far left, and several of his comrades-in-arms assemble for a group shot in front of a less-than-Alpine hill of tough shrubs and rubble that Korean veterans knew too well.



BECAUSE OF the shortage of officers, I filled in as a platoon leader even though I was only a technical sergeant in the first platoon of F Co. We really had it rough in the WonjuHoengsong area in January, 1951, and we also survived some of those "human wave" attacks on Hill 325.

I ran 180 rounds of .30 caliber ammunition through an M-2 carbine in less than five minutes on that one. The carbine's action jammed from overheating, and I finished with a .45 caliber Thompson submachine gun I had taken from a Chinese prisoner.

NEARLY JANUARY, 1952, I landed in Korea.

My initial impression was of a cloudy, dreary, extremely cold country that consisted of rocks and

rubble.

Fortunately, we were equipped with the latest in winterized clothing, but we were still cold, especially at night.

I wondered how those who had fought there the previous winter had survived the cold, let alone the war, with the poor clothing and equipment they had.

I joined H Co., of the 17th Infantry Regiment, 7th Division, but fortunately the heaviest fighting had subsided. Everywhere we went there was the stark reality of a barren, cold and rocky country that made you wonder why we were there.

We still had the belief that we were doing our part to stop Communist aggression, although home support for us had begun to erode with the entry of the Chinese into the war.

We collected weapons and ammunition from the casualties of both sides and prepared for further assaults. Later we loaded a 6 x 6 with captured weapons and ammunition from that action alone.

One of the things that saved us on Hill 325 was that later "waves" in the attack carried no weapons. They picked them up from the dead or wounded and continued attacking. The first gunner on the .30 caliber light machine gun was dragged away from his gun by one of those guys with no weapons and finally used his .45 on him so he could get back to his machine gun and resume his support fire.

Bitter cold, shortages of warm

clothing and food and tremendous odds against us—that is what I remember about Korea of 1950-51. Gen. Matthew B. Ridgway, an old paratrooper, brought a fighting spirit to the 8th Army, and I was proud to be part of it.

I led a full platoon of 42 men into the Wonju fight and walked out three days later with only 10 men behind me. I remember standing on a hill south of that town and watching the fireworks as 14 boxcars of ammunition were destroyed when we

moved out. Quite a show.

Later, we retook the town and moved on to the north. There in the big Communist attacks of April and May, the 2nd Division proved to be "second to none."

It is too bad that so little credit has been given the "inactive" reservists who came in until the Regular Army could mobilize its fightingmen. Except for a line or two in one of S.L.A. Marshall's books, no one has even bothered to try.

Korean War Memorial

Long supported by the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the National Korean War Memorial may materialize after all.

Bills for the memorial have been introduced in the House of Representatives by Rep. G.V. (Sonny) Montgomery, (Miss.), a World War II and Korean War veteran who chairs the House Veterans Affairs Committee; Rep. John Paul Hammerschmidt (Ark.), its ranking minority member and WWII veteran; Rep. Stan Parris (Va.), a veteran of the Korean War himself, and Rep. James Florio (N.J.), who served on active duty in the Navy from 1955 to 1958, and in the Senate by Sen. William L. Armstrong (Colo.), a former National Guardsman. Its number is S. 1223. One of its cosponsors is Sen. Rudy Boschwitz (Minn.), author of legislation in the 98th Congress for the memorial's erection. Commander-in-Chief Billy Ray Cameron had asked Sen. Boschwitz to reintroduce his bill, but he decided to support Sen. Armstrong's instead. Several Representatives are cosponsors of the House bills. Cameron has written House members urging their support for the Montgomery-Hammerschmidt bill, H.R. 2205.

Rep. Florio's bill would have the memorial financed entirely by federal funds, while the Armstrong-Parris bill would leave open the possibility of some private financing.

A VFW spokesman said the organization prefers government financing because it was the government that sent the men to fight the war.

The VFW also opposes involvement of private firms because 30% to 75% of the money raised goes to cover administrative costs, not memorial construction.

At the 1984 National Convention, VFW delegates voted support for House Joint Resolution 236 and Senate Joint Resolution 97, which would have authorized erection of such a memorial in Washington or in that area, but the House and Senate measures died with the 98th Congress.

Col. William E. Ryan, Jr., director of Operations and Finance for the American Battle Monuments Commission (ABC), which the VFW supports as builder of the memorial, has advised the VFW that checks or money orders for the memorial's construction may be sent directly to ABC. They should be made payable to the American Battle Monuments Commission (Korean War Memorial) and addressed to Director of Operations and finance, American Battle Monuments Commission, Washington, D.C. 20314.

Funds to design the memorial were denied to the American Battle Monuments Commission in its 1986 budget request. The design's \$250,000 was deleted from the request by OMB Director David Stockman. ■

Fortunately, I survived the minor hostilities we faced there in 1952 and was very happy to rotate home. The good Lord looked after me, because within a month after I left, the United States launched its last major attack, and of the company I had been attached to only a handful survived.

My last impression of Korea was a much more favorable one. That was when I went back as Commander-in-Chief of the VFW in the spring of 1978. To see Seoul rebuilt with row after row of apartments, street after street with independent shopkeepers and obviously happy citizens, young and old, somehow made it all worthwhile.

Like Vietnam, Korea was a war we were not allowed to win.

But the tough Korean people whom we had treated with derision during the war turned the Korean stalemate into an American success story.

If we are forced into another bloody conflict, they will be tough and dependable allies.



Whatta Parade!

By Margaret Houk

Upwards of 50,000 people come from as far as Milwaukee the second Saturday in June each year to watch what is believed to be the nation's largest Flag Day parade.

It follows a three-mile route down the tree-lined streets of Appleton, Wis. In addition to the customary bands, political dignitaries, tanks and military units, the parade features such colorful entries as decorated floats, choral groups, a double-decker bus, Little League teams, clowns and a dancing dog unit.

Flag Day got its start in 1885 in the small farm community of Waubeka, Wis. A young teacher, Bernard J. Cigrand, spent months with his Stony Hill School pupils planning a special birthday party to honor their country's symbol. After other communities picked up on the idea, President Woodrow Wilson in 1916 officially proclaimed June 14 as Flag Day.

[Recently, Waubeka was the scene of the unveiling of the new 22-cent stamp bearing a representation of the Flag.]

Now in its 35th year, the parade draws an average of 115 units to celebrate the birthday of the national

banner. Top-notch drum and bugle corps entries hold a stiff competition afterwards in a local stadium which draws from several Midwest states and promises a full day of excitement for those who attend both events.

"It takes a lot of work and dedication to get the (organizational) job done," says Delmar (Bud) Otis, a member of Post 2778, and for several years parade chairman. He and two other VFW members, Bob Lathrop and Russ Luebben, retired this year after putting in more than 20 years each on the parade committee.

The committee work is done by volunteers except for basic secretarial services provided by the city of Appleton. The city also provides a nominal amount from its public celebrations budget to cover travel expenses for the bands and drum corps, the city float and a few other incidentals.

One committee handles floats, an other dignitaries and publicity. A third lines up cars for honored participants and a fourth arranges for the banner that bridges Appleton's main street. Someone also has to contact service organizations for their entries.

As the planning progresses, questions invariably arise. "Who will we get for 'honorary' parade marshal this year?" (The Flag is the true marshal.) "Will we have enough floats?" "Shall we have horses, along with the 'problems' they bring to the streets?"

Other worries are tanks that tear up the streets and having an insufficient number of "fill" units (clowns, antique autos and cyclists). A prize is awarded for the best float.

In May, monthly meetings become weekly as letters come in promising floats, marching units, honored guests, Scout troops, and such versatile entries as a nearby community's latest pride: a spanking new advanced-technology fire truck.

Finally the exciting day arrives. Breakfast in a downtown restaurant, hosted by the mayor, starts things off. Streets are staked with numbered signs telling units where to line up.

Lunch has to be quick and early, for shortly after noon the car signs come out, ready for placement on the vehicles of honored dignitaries.

Where patriotism runs high, everybody has to get in the act.

One of these years maybe the governor will come. Does he get invited? You bet! How about President Reagan? Yeh, him too.

As parade time approaches, confused participants wander up to the sign-in desk looking for their number on the lineup sheet. If the committee is lucky, they'll find it. If not, several committee members, now dressed appropriately in white shirts, navy pants, and red-and-white baseball caps emblazoned Committee intercept the stragglers, pushing uniforms in various directions as required.

Somehow order comes out of the chaos around the 2 p.m., kickoff time. Motorcycles clear the way, courtesy of a local cycle club. A color guard escorts Old Glory on her way, followed by the honorary parade marshal. A marching unit carrying 50 flags stirs the hearts of the biggest cynics and mid-America once again revels in flags on floats, in the hands of Scouts and baton twirlers, on Congressmen's cars and antique autos and gracing the flanks of decorated pickups, rescue squad vehicles, tandem bikes and horse and dog units.

No one is turned down, the only requirement is that the unit must somehow, somewhere display and honor the Flag. Musical units play John Philip Sousa and clowns and silly cycles add a few laughs.

Chances are, if you live anywhere in the area, you'll know one if not several of the participants. Spectators shout "Hi!" and wave. Children chase the candy the clowns toss here and there.

The people also love the special shows an occasional unit puts on for the benefit of the dignitaries on the reviewing stand. Committee members cringe because every stop, however brief, delays a parade that generally runs 2½ hours as it is. The parade has never been rained out, says Otis, though at times the entries have had to battle a little "heavy dew."

Is it overdone? Probaly. Do the people love it anyway? You bet! For behind all the schmalz is a parade and love for a people, a nation that stands for love founded in freedom.

What better way to show it? ■

By Jack Sullivan

WHEN THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LANDINGS IN NORMANDY on June 6, 1944, was observed last year, the nation's smallest branch of the service may have seemed overshadowed, but in the memories of those who owe their lives to it, the U.S. Coast Guard still looms large.

At least 1,438 Allied soldiers were saved from death in the bone-chilling waters of the English Channel by the Coast Guard's Flotilla, formed at President Roosevelt's suggestion.

The Coast Guard also manned five attack transports, 25 LSTs and LCIs that carried troops to the beaches, but its five dozen 83-foot patrol boats had the sole mission of saving men.

Thirty of them were assigned to Utah and Omaha Beaches, sites of the landings of the Americans, while the other half covered the areas where the British, Canadians and French troops went ashore.

More than 500 of the 1,438 rescued were saved within 36 hours of the initial assault wave.

The story of one Coast Guardsman that deserves re-telling is that of Thomas H. Connor who was stranded

Every Man Distinguished Himself

He had traded his wet torn dungarees for officer's khakis he found on the landing craft and feared he would be court-martialed for allegedly impersonating an officer.

Instead of a court-martial, he received the Bronze Star.

Ens. Bernard B. Wood, USCG, made one of the first rescues of the invasion. Less than 2,000 yards off the beach, his vessel picked up 47 soldiers and sailors from a stricken landing craft just a few minutes after H-Hour.

The crew of his CGC-1 had to push and shove the survivors on board the little cutter because of wounds and the frigid water. He maneuvered his craft around shellfire and oncoming landing craft that had the right-of-way until every man visible in the water had been pulled on board.

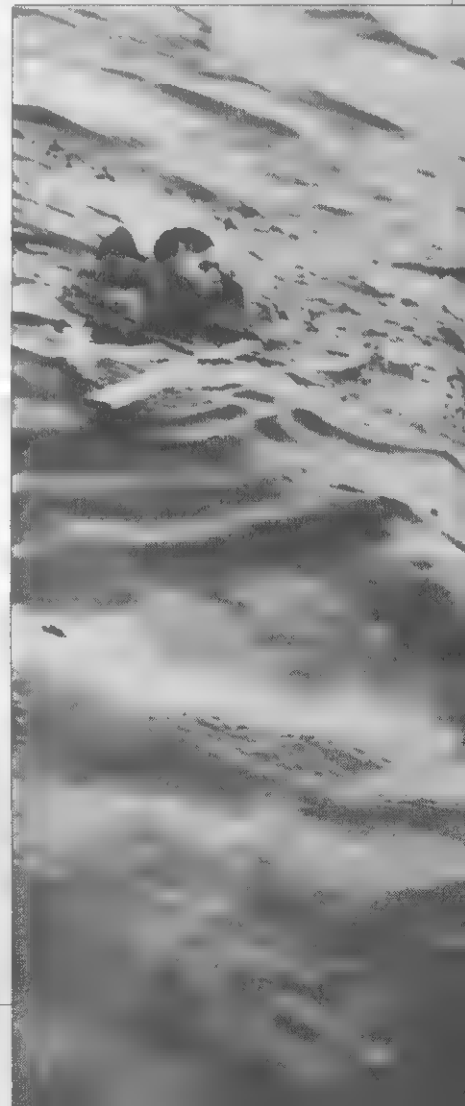
Some distance away, Ens. O. Tinsley Meekings's CGC-2 was busy picking up soldiers whose DUKWs were being swamped as they moved close to the beach. Underwater obstacles were everywhere, but CGC-2 did not lose one of the soldiers.

Two Coast Guard cutters, CGC-3 and CGC-4, under Lt. William J. Starrett and Lt. James F. Smith, respectively, helped get troops to the beach under heavy German fire as their own landing barges were foundering. They towed them right onto the beaches.

CGC-5 under Ens. S.G. Pattyson made 34 rescues in six hours. All the

wounded were taken to hospital ships and CGC-5's wooden decks were red with blood, but no wounded were lost.

The coolness of Ens. Richard S. Peer, commanding CGC-8, probably saved British lives. His vessel was sent to stand by a British steamer loaded with troops that had taken a



One of the first 83-footers to make rescues during the invasion of Normandy, CGC-1 picked-up 47 soldiers and sailors from a sinking landing craft minutes after H-Hour on D-Day.

on Utah Beach when his ship, an LCI, left without him.

When a boat loaded with wounded attempted to leave, it hit a mine and began to sink. Other vessels tried to reach it, but were prevented by mines. Connor started up an abandoned landing craft, reached the foundering craft and with the help of an able crew member of the damaged boat, got the wounded aboard and to safety. Connor's story was slow to come to light.

Coast Guardsman aboard an 83-footer pull survivors from the oily waters of the English Channel.



An 83-footer takes a sinking DUKW and its troops in tow.

direct hit. Many were wounded and fire had broken out. Over a bullhorn his words, "Sir, I am standing by to take off casualties if and when you think it necessary," calmed the panicked British who began aiding their wounded and putting out fires.

CGC-16 was convoying invasion barges to the beach as mines were taking their toll of landing craft. One barge 800 yards off the beach was hit and sank. Lt. R.V. McPhail headed his

CGC-16 to the site and began picking up survivors when a nearby landing craft disintegrated. Men and debris were scattered but CGC-16's crew began pulling men out of the water and moved to a larger Coast Guard ship for help. Doctors came on board. One soldier was buried at sea. Another, thought to be mortally wounded, revived and said he was not going to be buried like that. At least half his abdominal area was gone and it is not known whether he survived, although he was transferred to the larger ship.

Soon CGC-16 went to rescue men from another landing craft that was sinking. It was loaded with ammunition. The cutter's crew thought all the wounded had been removed, but one survivor told McPhail one man was

left with his legs broken. Despite the danger the craft would explode, McPhail returned to the burning vessel. Volunteers climbed on board and hauled the man off as the craft turned turtle. They were thrown into the sea, saved by the lines they had slung under the man's arms. CGC-16 pulled all of them from the channel.

Just as the cutter crew cut the securing lines, a landing craft that struck a mine sank. Commanded by Ens. Alvis D. Arnhart, CGC-17 had gone to its rescue. Twenty-two men had been pulled to safety and 19 of them were stretcher cases. All 22 lived.

With no available gunfire support, Ens. John N. Kellam charged his vessel right up to LeHavre harbor, then in enemy hands, to rescue a lone RAF pilot who had been forced to ditch his plane.

Two days after D-Day, CGC-32 and CGC-40 rushed to the aid of a sinking destroyer escort just off the beach. In only eight minutes 24 crewmen were brought to safety. Two seamen, David O. Clark and J.S. Jordan, stayed on the ship's bridge as it was sinking in order to free an injured man from a tangle of twisted steel. The man was finally strapped to a stretcher, but onrushing water barred avenues of escape. The two then pulled the survivor with them into the sea. They were only a few yards away when the ship capsized and sank, but kept their man afloat until they were picked up by CGC-32.

The terse report: "Survivors rescued, five; corpses, none. Comments, none" covered a hair-raising rescue that won for Lt. George Clark, commander of CGC-53, the British Distinguished Service Cross.

Clark had plunged CGC-35 through a wall of flames after a large landing craft loaded with oil and gasoline was hit. CGC-35's crew pulled survivors from the burning oil on the water and the decks of the doomed craft.

Each of the 83-footers had a story to tell, summed up like this: "Every man distinguished himself." ■



Volunteers one and all, the high-spirited glider pilots of WWII were brash and not the least bit bashful about telling anyone who asked the "G" on their silver wings stood for guts.

By Ed Keys

The World War II glider pilots, who carried out their extremely dangerous missions as a spearhead of the Allied invasions, have gone largely unrecognized by Americans and have become our nation's unsung heroes.

These pilots performed some of the most hazardous duty of the war, landing along with the paratroopers behind enemy lines in France, Holland, Belgium, Germany and in Asia.

Glider pilots find it difficult to account for the identity problem, in view of their daring feats and their highly prominent wartime profile.

The men who piloted the "flying coffins" on what many considered suicide missions have become frustrated in their efforts to create a public awareness of their vital role in the war.

Lee G. Hampson of Modesto, Calif., national chairman of the



National World War II Glider Pilots Association, paints a

vivid picture of the glider pilots in action:

"Imagine flying a flimsy, unarmed, fabric-covered CG-4A glider loaded with infantrymen, cartons of high explosive ammunition, gasoline and TNT at tree-top level, through a murderous barrage of heavy flak to crash land in a tiny field surrounded by 80-foot trees, flooded and planted with big anti-glider poles and deadly land mines.

"Then, as you crawl out of the wreckage of your glider you are charged by big tanks and hostile enemy forces tossing hand grenades and firing small arms, mortar and machine gun fire at you.

The FORGOTTEN Heroes

**Thirty-eight years
after the Holland
invasion, American
glider pilots were
presented the
Order of Queen
Wilhelmina award,
the highest Dutch
honor for valor.**

"Those were really thrilling and scary experiences. They were guaranteed to get your adrenalin pumping like mad. It's like flying a stick of dynamite through the gates of hell."

The huge 15-place CG-4A American combat glider had a plywood floor and was made of tubular steel covered with fabric. It was 48 feet and 4 inches long with a wingspan of 83 feet. It could carry a payload of 3,750 pounds.

It was towed on a 1-inch diameter 300-foot nylon rope behind a C-47 transport plane. The CG-4A could land at about 50 miles an hour within as little as 200 feet when the pilot pushed it on to the skids under the nose.

"The public and news media are quick to recognize the infantrymen, fighter and bomber plane crews, Marines, sailors and submariners for their important wartime assignments and this is richly deserved," Hampson commented. "But the GPs (glider

jeeps, 2,856 tons of ammunition, gasoline and supplies. It was the largest armada of airborne troops in history. Among the 1,700 American glider pilots in the mission, 114 were casualties, with 12 killed, 65 missing and 37 injured or wounded. Casualties among the crews of the C-47s that carried the paratroopers and towed the gliders totaled 252, with 31 killed, 66 wounded or injured, and 155 missing or taken prisoner. The American airborne troops had 10,004 casualties, with 816 killed, 2,173 wounded or injured, and 7,015 missing or taken prisoner.

On D-Day, June 6, 1944, American glider pilots were in the lead elements of Operation Overload, the largest combined airborne and seaborne invasion in history.

Over 1,200 CG-4A gliders dropped behind Nazi lines in France into their landing zones at points near Ste.-Mere-Eglise, Carentan and Caen, hauling in 95 howitzers, 290 vehicles, 238 tons of cargo and 4,021 men. Of the 1,030 U.S. glider pilots reaching Normandy, 180, or 17.5%, were casualties. Twenty-five were dead, 31 wounded, 91 injured and 33 missing or taken prisoner.

On Aug. 15, 1944, a total of 372 CG-4As were towed from bases along the Italian coast to their landing zones in the Argens River Valley near La Motte, France. The objective of that mission, code-named Operation Dragoon, was to cut off the German forces along the Mediterranean coast from those to the north in Normandy.

The American gliders carried about 2,250 men, 25 howitzers and 166 vehicles. Eleven glider pilots were killed and 30 injured in the crash landings in the hillside vineyards. More than 100 of the glider infantrymen were injured.

On Dec. 24, 1944, American GPs in 12 CG-4As flew to the rescue in Bas-

togne, Belgium, of the beleaguered 101st Airborne Division whose commander Brig. Gen. Anthony C. McAuliffe responded with a defiant "Nuts" to German demands that they surrender or be annihilated.

All the gliders got through with 32,900 pounds of cargo for the Screaming Eagles, the 10th Armored Division and other units surrounded by four crack German panzer divisions dur-



Troops of the 1st Airborne Task Force leave their CG-4A combat gliders, preparing for action after landing in the LaMotta area in Southern France on the D-Day there, Aug. 15, 1944.

pilots) are still plagued with an image problem."

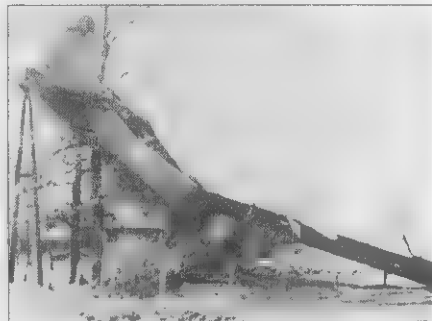
Many years ago when the Dutch presented medals to all the other forces that participated in the liberation of Holland, they forgot the American glider pilots. This was rectified in 1982, 38 years after the Holland invasion, when the American glider pilots were presented the Order of Queen Wilhelmina Award, the highest Dutch award for valor. Award recipients are authorized to wear the coveted orange lanyard around the left shoulder while in uniform.

A total of 1,618 of the 1,899 American gliders used in Operation Market-Garden, the Allied invasion of Holland Sept. 17-30, 1944, got through to their landing zones behind German lines with 465 trailers, 710



ing the Battle of the Bulge.

Thirty-five of the 50 gliders on a mission to Bastogne on Dec. 27 landed with 106,291 pounds of precious cargo. Fifteen of the glider pilots on that mission were either killed or captured when they landed in enemy territory. Thirteen C-47 tow planes that



This glider was snagged in a tree after crash-landing at Wesel, Germany, after flying across the Rhine River in Operation Varsity on March 24, 1945.

pulled the gliders on that mission were shot down and four others crashed returning to their bases.

American glider pilots on March 24, 1945, participated in Operation Varsity, the largest single day airborne operation of the war, across the Rhine River into Wesel, Germany.

The gigantic mission involved 906 CG-4As. A total of 140 of the 295 planes pulling them were hit and 12 C-47s crashed. A large percentage of the CG-4As landed on target and brought in 3,492 troops, 202 jeeps, 94 trailers and a great deal of ammunition and artillery.

During Operation Broadway on March 5, 1945, 34 American gliders crash landed in hostile Burma jungles and 17 came in at Chowringhee hauling 478 men, three mules and a bulldozer to build sorely needed runways. Later, another 10 CG-4As went in to Myitkyina airport to rebuild the

offensive planned to capture Berlin, but this glory went to the Russians in April, 1945. They were spared from an aerial invasion of Japan when the atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

But the casualty rate among glider pilots in combat had already soared to 37%. Even glider pilot training was dangerous. In primary training, they were required to stop the engines of their airplanes while airborne and bring their light power planes in for deadstick landings.

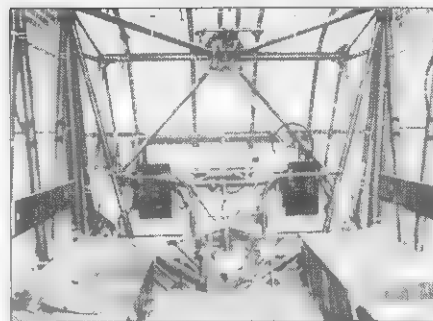
Stateside training accidents resulted in the loss of three to six gliders daily. Seventeen glidermen were killed and 162 more injured in training accidents between May, 1943 and February, 1944.

But combat glider flying, Hampson recalls, was far more traumatic and scary than that depicted in glider training films, narrated by Ronald Reagan, now the nation's commander in chief.

Only 5,000 American glider pilots were among the 16 million American military personnel in World War II. They were all volunteers, cocky, tough and not at all reticent about letting anyone know that the letter "G" superimposed on their silver wings stood for "Guts."

A 101st Airborne Division historian described them as "the most uninhibited individuals in the Army. There seemed to be something about flying a glider that freed a man from the ordinary restraints of Army life. They successfully defied all attempts at organization."

Now, they are a "vanishing breed." Only 1,400 are affiliated with the glider pilot group, which is administered by a volunteer, Tipton Randolph, association secretary, 136 West Main Street, Freehold, N.J., who enlists members from among for-



The interior of a CG-4A, 15-place glider is shown. Used by the IX Troop Carrier Command, the aircraft could take a 3,700-pound payload consisting of pilot and co-pilot, 13 fully-equipped soldiers.

Seventy of the group's members are still flying high. But most of these active pilots fly planes with engines. Few fly gliders.

Three preserved or restored CG-4As are all that remain of the 14,000 produced during the war. One is at the Air Force museum in Dayton, Ohio, another at the Airborne Museum at Ste.-Mere-Eglise in Normandy and the other in the glider pilots' Silent Wings Museum in Terrell, Texas, about 25 miles east of Dallas, site of the 1985 VFW National Convention.

However, not everyone has forgotten the glider pilots. Sens. Barry Goldwater and Strom Thurmond in 1982 and 1983 introduced a Senate resolution authorizing a memorial to glider pilots outside the gates of the Arlington National Cemetery. Each session the measure died.

There is still hope, however faint, that military glider pilots will some day be able to claim their rightful place in American history.

About the Author:

Ed Keys, a WWII glider pilot, flies a Piper Cherokee 180 and lives in Florida.

important runway there.

Only six CG-4As and a single CG-13 were used in June, 1945, in a landing near Aparri in northern Luzon in the Philippines to carry in elements of the 11th Airborne Division.

American glider pilots were scheduled for Operation Eclipse, the Allied

mer GPs, tow plane pilots, glider mechanics, glider instructors and glider airborne infantry. The American glider program was ended by the Defense Department in 1952. There will be no future generations of American glider pilots.

John McGann, 89, oldest veteran on board for the 40th cruise, visits with Al Lynch, a Vietnam veteran and Medal of Honor recipient who belongs to VFW Post 4309. During his WWI service, McGann drove a mule team.

By Joan M. Maiman

FOR 40 YEARS, CHICAGO SUN TIMES COLUMNIST IRV KUPCINET has welcomed veterans and active duty servicemen and women on board Kup's cruise for a day of fun on Lake Michigan in a tradition unique to Chicago and the newspaper.

Kup will begin this 41st year of the outing next month just as have all the other cruises over the years, with Kup standing at the top of the gangplank to welcome personally each guest, all 500, or more, of them, aboard.

Those who have sailed with Kup over the years have been veterans of the Spanish American War, the two World Wars, Korea and Vietnam. All have had the best in entertainment and food and number 40 last year lived up to that tradition.

The U.S. Coast Guard icebreaker Mackinaw got underway in perfect weather under the command of Capt.

Miss Illinois, Ruth Booker, poses with 75-year-old Anton Beier, who wears his Purple Heart "the nurse pinned on before I left the hospital today."

Kup's Cruise

Richard Taylor. Veterans from the four Chicago area VA hospitals and servicemen and women from area installations were greeted with yachting caps and tee shirts commemorating the cruise. Small stuffed animals also were distributed and many of these clearly would be taken back to hospital wards to serve as mascots and reminders of a special day. Kup noted that over the years "the active duty people look younger and younger and the veterans look older and older."

Outlining the history of the cruise, Kup recalled that he began the tradition in 1945 as World War II was drawing to a close.

"During the war, especially in Chicago, the servicemen had been treated like kings," noted Kup. "I was afraid that as the war ended they would be forgotten."

Through his newspaper column, Kup appealed to the people of Chicago and every year since then they have given money and talent to make the day a success.

Kup added that during the Vietnam War he went out of his way, with the support of the citizens of Chicago, to make sure that those who served in that war and all other veterans were not forgotten in the city, as so often they were around the nation.

According to Kup, support for the cruise has grown over the years: "To the people of this city, the veterans are heroes."

As the Mackinaw headed out into Lake Michigan, it was given a rousing

send off by the Chicago Fire Department boat Joseph McDill. In a salute reserved for VIPs, streams of colored water shot high into the air and whistles sounded in tribute to those who had served the nation.

In the morning, coffee and rolls were available on the top deck with cold drinks and chips on the lower decks. No one went hungry on this trip.

Cheerleaders from the Chicago Bulls and the Chicago Bears were among the hostesses aboard for the day. Breakdancing on the upper deck attracted many veterans and some joined in with enthusiasm if not always skill. A full scale show was held in the afternoon under the direction of Frank York, a veteran of many of these cruises who served with special services at Walter Reed Hospital during his time in the service. York and all the other entertainers donate their time for the cruise.

As for those guests, they clearly loved every minute of it. Oldest veteran on board was John McGann who served in France with the 33rd Infantry Division in World War I as a teamster, driving a team of mules, a skill that earned him an extra six dollars. "I was paid \$36 a month in service," recalled McGann as he chatted with Al Lynch, a Vietnam veteran, Medal of Honor recipient and member of VFW Post 4309. McGann went on to add that the cruise "made me feel 10 years younger. I plan to go on lots more because I'm going to live to be 100."





This was Lynch's first cruise. He called it "a great tribute to the hospitalized veterans who are so often forgotten."

It was also the first cruise for Bob Swanson, of VFW Post 3579 who served in WWII. Calling it "quite an experience," Swanson said he will be back next year. Another Medal of Honor recipient on board was Dick Busch who served with the U.S. Marine Corps. As he and Lynch were introduced to the crowd by Kup, Busch joked that between Kup and himself, "We have more time at sea than Adm. Nimitz." It was Busch's 20th cruise.

Bob Swanson, a World War II veteran and member of VFW Post 3579, promises, "I'll be back next year."



A firsttimer aboard was Bud Napier, of VFW Post 2202, a WWII veteran who was enjoying the show.

One of the women veterans on board was Nova Gauding who served during WWII. She had already found a seat for the afternoon entertainment five minutes after boarding.

Also staking out good seats were VFW members Ed Zielinski and Marv Miller. Together with their friends, Fredrick Bigelow and Bob Grishep, they figured that they had "over 100 years of military service between them."

Miss Illinois, 21-year-old Ruth Booker, was busy throughout the day signing autographs and posing for pictures with the veterans.

Anton Beier, 75, proudly wearing his Purple Heart Medal, "which the nurse pinned on for me at the VA hospital," was one of those who posed with Miss Illinois "so I can prove back at the hospital that I really met her."

VFW Post 6791 member William Paschel was enjoying his fifth cruise and called the annual event "the greatest thing to ever happen to veterans. The city and the people really go all out for us." He added: "Illinois is the only state to do this," as he was reloading his camera for pictures for his album. Nicholas Fryziuc, of VFW Post 6863, handed Kup a button which honored the POW/MIAs. Fryziuc was a POW on Bataan. When the ship was out on the lake, the Coast Guard demonstrated air-sea rescue techniques by picking up a "downed" airman.

Strolling musicians moved among the veteran guests joined by other entertainers such as clowns and fortune tellers. Throughout the day, many veterans, some of them able to walk with ease and others needing canes or crutches, came up to Kup to thank him personally for remembering them. For each one, Kup had a special word of thanks for service to the city and the nation.

Kup was presented with a plaque



Frank York conducts the band on Kup's cruise. York has donated his time over the years on many of the cruises.

commemorating the 40th cruise during on-board ceremonies.

Finally, after a long sun-drenched day on the lake, the Mackinaw headed for home. As the ship pulled into port, busses were lined up waiting for the veterans. As they left, Kup gave each another bag of souvenirs.

Among VFW Posts and Auxiliaries supporting the cruise were 4920, 2825, 2729, 1485, 2048, 4308, 9773, 235, 3579, 2992, 198, 2149 and 1284.

To these veterans, Kup and the people of Chicago are heroes for continuing to remember them long after many others have forgotten.

Listening to those on the cruise and hearing their accounts of their time in the forests of Europe in WWI, North Africa, POW camps, the beaches of Normandy in WWII, the winters of Korea and the jungles of Vietnam, it becomes clear who the heroes are.

For these men and women are those who in Kup's words, "served all of us so well."

Alzheimer's Afflicts Aging

By Merrily Jackson

Velma first suspected something was wrong with her husband Warren, a tire salesman, in October of 1979. One morning the 50-year-old Korean vet got up and was unable to tie his tie. He had forgotten how.

He would wash his hands at the sink in the bathroom then walk away, leaving the water running. He had trouble using the telephone because he would look at a number, then forget it before his finger touched the dial. In January, 1980, a neurologist diagnosed Warren's problem: Alzheimer's disease, an incurable brain disorder that would only grow worse, eventually leading to death.

Alzheimer's afflicts more than two and a half million Americans, an estimated 300,000 of whom are veterans. Most victims are over 65, but it sometimes strikes people in their 40s and 50s, like Warren. On the average, the time between diagnosis and death is six to eight years, although some victims can linger as long as 20.

No one knows what causes Alzheimer's, although it is the fourth leading cause of death in the United States, after heart disease, cancer and stroke. It is a disease that shows no respect for race, ethnic origin or economic status.

While the cause of Alzheimer's is still a puzzle, researchers are fitting more and more small pieces together. The Bronx Veterans Administration Medical Center is the site of a new research center devoted to the study of Alzheimer's. Researchers there are under the leadership of Dr. Kenneth Davis, chief of psychiatry at the Bronx VA Medical Center, who is internationally recognized for his research in drug treatment for Alzheimer's disease.

Alzheimer's accounts for more than half of all cases of "senile dementia," a symptom which, until

recently, was thought to be a natural part of growing old.

Alzheimer's is sometimes confused with other conditions that produce mental confusion but are treatable. These include: thyroid disorders, certain vitamin deficiencies, depression, anemia, adverse drug reactions and alcoholism.

The disease is named for Alois Alzheimer, a German neurologist who, in 1906, encountered a woman who showed all the signs of senile dementia — forgetfulness, hallucinations, disorientation — but was only 51. After she died, he examined her brain and found it contained strange clumps of twisted nerve cell fibers.

For some 50 years afterward, physicians assigned the term "presenile dementia" to cases of the kind described by Dr. Alzheimer. They regarded it as a rare disorder, something entirely separate from the senile dementia of their elderly patients. But in the 1960s, researchers discovered the same clumps of twisted nerve cell fibers in brain tissue from elderly patients with dementia. The term "Alzheimer's Disease" began to appear in medical books, but only in the obscure back pages.

Now, with the rapid growth of the nation's elderly population, the number of cases of Alzheimer's disease is growing, too. There are 27 million Americans over 65, of whom 7% are victims of Alzheimer's.

Loss of memory is usually the first sign of Alzheimer's. This does not mean that elderly people should become concerned when they have problems remembering where they put their car keys or can't recall names as quickly as they used to. This is normal, age-related forgetfulness.

When memory loss begins to interfere with a person's job or social life, it is a sign of something more. For example, Bernard, a night watchman

at a chemical plant for 20 years, one night detained an "intruder" to the plant — a fellow employee and friend whom he had known for a decade. "We'd bowled on the same league for years and one night he just doesn't know me. He honestly thought I was a stranger," his friend told the company doctor. Bernard was later diagnosed as having Alzheimer's.

Although not as common as memory loss, a change in personality may also be among the early indicators of Alzheimer's. Maxine, a 71-year-old retired schoolteacher, beloved by her grandchildren for her jovial disposition, became moody and violent. "One night at a family dinner I asked her to pass the peas. She picked up a handful and threw them at me," said her grandson. "We would go to her apartment to visit her and she wouldn't let us in. She was convinced we were stealing from her."

As the disease progresses, the victim becomes more and more confused. His judgment becomes totally unsound; he has trouble making the simplest decisions. He might switch on the air conditioner even though it is snowing outside, or turn the furnace to 80° on a hot, midsummer day.

At this stage, the Alzheimer's sufferer needs around-the-clock care, and it is his family who becomes the real victim of the disease.

"Our life savings were wiped out," says Velma. "I had to sell the house to pay the nursing home and medical bills." He died 10 months later.

Although Warren's illness was relatively short, his family's situation is typical of a great many who are not poor enough to qualify for government aid, so are left nearly destitute from the effects of unemployment combined with the enormous expense of fulltime care. With Alzheimer's, one's family must be either very rich or very poor to escape financial devastation. ■

Posts Win Awards

Four Posts have won Silver Awards of Excellence for their outstanding participation in community activities, Commander-in-Chief Billy Ray Cameron has announced.

In addition, he said four Posts have been singled out for Bronze Awards of Merit for their exceptional community activities work.

The Silver Awards went to **Post 8081**, Warrensville, Ill.; **Post 3142** and Auxiliary, Charleston, S.C.; **Post 2358**, Roseville, Mich., and **Post 5518** and Auxiliary, Elk River, Minn.

Bronze Awards were made to **Post 3628** and Auxiliary, Riverton, Wyo.; **Post 1273** and Auxiliary, Rapid City, S.D.; **Post 922** and Auxiliary, Pendleton, Ore., and **Post 4066** and Auxiliary, Shakopee, Minn.

Post 8081 built a monument to veterans of all wars which was dedicated last November. **Post 3142** and its Auxiliary were cited for their role in food, clothing and furniture distribution to tornado victims. **Post 2358** for the past 13 years has given hunter safety and marksmanship classes. **Post 5518** and its Auxiliary played host to the state's first VFW soccer tournament last year. It is expected to become an annual event.

Post 3628 and Auxiliary raised more than \$1,000 to assist non-insurable families in the care of their seriously ill children. **Post 1273** and Auxiliary organized a series of "meet the candidate" sessions. **Post 922** and Auxiliary organized block homes as sanctuaries for children in event of trouble or injury. **Post 4046** and Auxiliary cooperated with other veterans' organizations in raising \$18,000 for transporting Scott County handicapped veterans.

Cameron praised them all for the service they rendered.

Post 1213, Lakeland, Fla., has been busy. Recently, the Post presented a National citation to a dog, "Shadow," that, although severely bitten in an eye by a snake, carried the reptile away to protect a small girl. In the Post's drug abuse program, two sheriff's deputies demonstrated how two dogs track down narcotics that

had been hidden. The Post also had two Voice of Democracy first place winners, Valerie Minholin and Dawn M. Thurston. Awards also have been made for fireman, policeman, deputy sheriff and state highway patrolman of the year.

A six-foot bronze statue of Audie Murphy, WWII's most decorated American soldier, sculpted by Commander Bill Leftwich, of **Post 7867**, Fort Davis, Texas, has been dedicated at Camp Mabry, a Texas National Guard installation in Austin. Mrs. Billie Bonner, Murphy's sister, represented the Murphy family.



This bronze statue of Audie Murphy was dedicated recently at Camp Mabry, a Texas National Guard installation at Austin.

Post 3320, Marysville, Ohio, has contributed \$500 to help with the restoration of the Huston House, an 1886 structure listed in the Registry of Historic Preservation that is being converted by the Union County Art League into a community house. Post Commander Ray Velej and Post Quartermaster Owen McAllister presented the check to Mrs. Marlynn John, league president.

Post 4605, Chateau, Mont., has raised \$700 toward the \$35,000 needed to repair the swimming pool in the community of 1,600. Post Commander Jim Brandner and Aux. Pres. Virginia Luinstra presented the check to Tom Rogers, president of the Lions Club. The contribution brought the fund to \$22,618.

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- ☐ Armed Forces Expeditionary
- ☐ Armed Forces Reserve (Specify Branch)
- ☐ Army Commendation
- ☐ Army Good Conduct
- ☐ Asiatic-Pacific Campaign
- ☐ Bronze Star
- ☐ China Service (N, M/C, G/G)
- ☐ Coast Guard Good Conduct
- ☐ Distinguished Flying Cross
- ☐ European-African-M.E. Campaign
- ☐ Korean Service
- ☐ Marine Good Conduct
- ☐ Navy Commendation
- ☐ Navy Good Conduct
- ☐ Navy & Marine Corps Medal
- ☐ Navy Reserve Medal
- ☐ National Defense Service
- ☐ Organized M/C Reserve
- ☐ Philippine Liberation
- ☐ Purple Heart
- ☐ Rep. Vietnam Cpgn/Year Bar
- ☐ Silver Star
- ☐ United Nations Service
- ☐ Vietnam Service
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30 Straight Years of Growth

By Billy Ray Cameron
Commander-in-Chief

Hi, Tom," the voice on the other end of the line said. "This is Fred down at the VFW. We noticed you haven't got your dues in yet. How about it? We have this big membership drive going on now and you don't want to miss out on all the Post activities."

"I'm sorry, Fred," Tom replied. "I guess I just forgot. You bet I don't want to let this slide any longer. I'll get a check in the mail tomorrow."

A few blocks away, Jack heard a knock at the front door. It was his old VFW comrade Jim.

"Well, Jim, what's up?"

"Jack, I've just come by to pick up your Post dues," Jim said. "We saw you hadn't sent yours in and I thought I'd stop by your house on the way home."

"I'm glad you did," Jack said. "I'll pay them right now and save a 22-cent stamp."

That same evening, Bob came home home from work. He had hardly got his coat off when his wife Nora remarked, "You know, Bob, Viola has been trying to get me to join the VFW Ladies Auxiliary. They do a lot of good work and I would like to, but I can't unless you join the VFW Post first. You spend a lot of time talking about your Korean War experience; why don't you join? You'd meet a lot of other veterans who must have been through the same things and you would have a lot in common. Besides the VFW does a lot of good work, too. If you got interested, you could become active in some of the youth programs or community activities. I bet you would make a great Buddy Poppy salesman."

"All right, all right. I'll join, but you have to promise me you will join the Auxiliary, too. I'll go by the Post and pick up an application tomorrow."

Nora reached in her purse, as she said, "Here. I'll save you the trouble. Viola gave me one this afternoon. All you have to do is to fill it out, get your discharge and take it to the Post."

As Eric eased himself into the barber's chair, Marty commented, "You have mentioned a lot of times that you were in the Navy in the

Pacific during World War II, Eric. Have you ever belonged to the VFW? Our Post does a lot and I'd like you to be a part of it."

"Say, that's a good idea, Marty," Eric replied. "You know, it's a funny thing, but no one ever asked me before. Sure, just get me an application."

George was sitting quietly at the bar waiting for the other veterans of his old regiment to join him. They had come to Indianapolis for their annual reunion. Finally, Bernie, his old platoon sergeant showed up. "Well, you look the same, George," Bernie chuckled after George ordered a round of beer. "You have been coming to these reunions for a long time, now, George. Have you ever thought of joining the VFW?"

"Oh, sure, but what do they do?"

"I'm glad you asked that. They have a lot of programs for young

The VFW provides a wide array of programs geared to assist youth and our communities and to instill in all Americans a love of country.

people, community service, help to veterans and their families and they will help you with your VA claim, too."

"Yeah, but what else? Just what do you get with your dues?"

"Benefits. That's what. The VFW has the best low-cost insurance programs in the business and you can even buy a lot of things like home appliances cheaper through the VFW than you can in any store."

"Got an application?"

"I thought you'd never ask."

These incidents may seem apocryphal, but in virtually the same way, almost word for word, they are

replicated over and over again in cities and towns all across the nation.

For these hypothetical conversations demonstrate the interest and dedication of devoted VFW and Ladies Auxiliary members that have brought us to our 30th consecutive year of membership growth as 1984-85 closed.

And what a way to end the year—30 years of straight increases—and our 86th anniversary as the nation's oldest major veterans' organization!

These 30 years of consecutive gains in membership cannot be matched by any other veterans' organization. In fact, it is doubtful that any group in the country—fraternal, benefit, civic, social, labor or religious can equal this record.

Last year at this time, we reached 2,000,149 in membership, to rack up 29 straight years of increases. Then this past June, we went beyond even that record and finished the 1984-85 year with 2,020,293 members.

What inspires our members to work so hard? What gives them that extra spark that seems so lacking in other organizations?

Oh, there are a lot of reasons for this phenomenon.

For one thing, the VFW is noted for its straightforward expression of its positions. Unlike the practice followed by some organizations, VFW stands on issues affecting veterans and national security are based on the resolutions adopted democratically by delegates to our National Conventions. These resolutions form the basis for Priority Goals to be reached during the membership year. Officers elected by the National Conventions pledge to work for these goals throughout their year. The record of success credited to the VFW clearly demonstrates the effort put forth to accomplish the mission.

The two major areas of VFW interest in accordance with its Congressionally-chartered purpose are to work on behalf of veterans, their dependents and survivors and to assure the United States a strong national defense.

To achieve these ends, the VFW



This graph shows exactly how much the VFW has grown in 30 years.

streets, carrying Viet Cong banners and praising Ho Chi Minh as, sickeningly, the "George Washington of his country." No, the VFW was steadfast. If there was any VFW dissent, it was over the way the war was being fought, not to win but to force the Reds to negotiate.

So if the question of why has the VFW continued to gain membership for the past 30 years, you can answer:

Because the organization is composed of men and women who are thoroughly committed to the ideals of courage, sacrifice and loyalty that have been the cornerstone of America since the nation's founding. They believe. They translate their beliefs into the kind of action that undergirds their commitment.

Knowing this, American veterans of all our nation's wars of this century, especially the Vietnam War, and most recently of Grenada and Lebanon, have responded by joining the VFW.

Not only does the VFW recognize their military service and the hazards it very often involved, but the VFW provides a wide array of programs geared to assist youth and our communities and to instill in all Americans, through its patriotic emphasis, a love of country.

The membership growth the VFW has experienced over the past 30 years was preceded by a brief decline in the years immediately following World War II, but from 1955 to 1985 it has increased steadily.

Coupled with this growth in overall numbers has been the consistent rise in the number of new Posts. The year 1984-85 witnessed the chartering of 255 new Posts. This is higher than the yearly average of 220 and accounts for more than 10,000 new or reinstated members. This is a further tribute to the hard work our members do. It also demonstrates the willingness of veterans in areas not served by Posts to pitch in to answer the need.

So it has been a good year—good for the VFW and by extension good for America. And all of you can share in the credit, for you are the ones who achieved it. ■

maintains a system of Service Officers who assist veterans with their claims before the Veterans Administration or other government agencies concerned with veterans' problems. Each year a half billion dollars is awarded veterans as a result of Service Officers' work. Through the sale of Buddy Poppies, countless veterans' families are assisted directly through VFW Posts or through other VFW means of delivering service. The VFW National Home cares for the children of deceased members.

In the area of national security, the VFW has never shirked its duty—just as its members never did during wartime—to keep uppermost in the minds of the American people the need for this country to have a national defense that is second to none. In war, there is no room for second best.

Not only has the VFW kept defense issues alive in the public mind, but what is more important, the VFW has acted and acted decisively where it counts most—in Congress by alerting every member to the need for specific weaponry to keep the nation strong. The B-1B bomber and the MX missile are examples.

In the area of veterans' rights and entitlements, the VFW has taken the lead in urging the passage in Congress of every constructive piece of veterans' legislation that has become law over the past at least 50 years. Establishment of the Veterans Administration, enactment of the GI Bill for World War II veterans, followed by its extension to cover Korean

War veterans and then an even broader range of benefits for Vietnam veterans, including the counseling centers, are only a few of the examples. Strength of membership made these achievements possible.

Support for American servicemen and women wherever they may be is part and parcel of the VFW's fulfillment of its purpose as guardian of American defense capability. Not only has the VFW urged over the years that the Armed Forces be given only the best to fight with if the need should arise, but the VFW has long been a leading advocate of higher pay and decent treatment for those who protect us. The VFW has firmly resisted any attempts to reduce retention pay for military retirees. Most recent example was your Commander-in-Chief's denunciation of OMB Director David Stockman's attack on the retention payment system.

The large number of Vietnam veterans who now comprise more than a fourth of our total membership is solid evidence of this organization's total and wholehearted support for them when they were fighting in Vietnam. The VFW never faltered in backing the American fighting men and women when vast numbers of the very people they were defending were denigrating and casting the worst kind of aspersions on the very cause for which they were shedding their blood in Vietnam. Posts and Auxiliaries throughout the country were citadels of patriotism when other Americans were marching in the

Department Commanders-of-the-Month

June



DIV I
Glen A. Rohr (7)
Ohio



DIV II
John T. Doonan
New Jersey



DIV III
Edwin H. Shuman (5)
Florida



DIV IV
Ronald P. Green (4)
North Carolina



DIV V
George E. McCracken (7)
Virginia



DIV VI
Arthur W. Triplett, Sr. (5)
Mississippi



DIV VII
William J. Jolin (2)
South Carolina



DIV VIII
Michael Ryan (2)
Vermont



DIV IX
Robert Smith (10)
Alaska



DIV X
Willis T. Alger
Germany

Commanders-of-the-Month for May who were not included in the June listing were Dino Costantini (4), Michigan, Division II, Arthur Streed (8), North Dakota, Division VIII and Edward Stewart (7), Hawaii, Division X (Parenthetical figure indicates number of times Commander has won this honor.)

Order of Parade

Standings are based on per capita tax transmittals received at National Headquarters through June 30, 1985.

NATIONAL AVERAGE — 101.01%

1	ALASKA	113.11	16	Georgia	101.54	36	New Mexico	100.262
2	South Carolina	107.19	17	Maine	101.44	37	Kentucky	100.21
3	Arizona	105.75	18	Missouri	101.33	38	Minnesota	100.04
4	North Carolina	105.38	19	Vermont	101.22	39	West Virginia	100.01
5	Germany	105.26	20	North Dakota	101.15	40	Montana	99.71
6	Hawaii	104.96	21	Texas	101.14	41	Wisconsin	99.65
7	Florida	104.81	22	Louisiana	101.00	42	Connecticut	99.22
8	Virginia	104.80	23	Pennsylvania	100.96	43	Kansas	99.20
9	Arkansas	104.21	24	New Jersey	100.94	44	Illinois	98.95
10	Mississippi	103.30	25	Michigan	100.89	45	Tennessee	98.88
11	Nebraska	102.67	26	Washington	100.81	46	Idaho	98.77
12	Ohio	102.40	27	Oregon	100.76	47	Nevada	98.50
13	Maryland	102.17	28	South Dakota	100.74	48	New Hampshire	98.26
14	Colorado	101.964	29	Massachusetts	100.61	49	Alabama	97.69
15	Delaware	101.86	30	Indiana	100.56	50	Oklahoma	97.64
			31	California	100.50	51	District of Columbia	95.83
			32	New York	100.45	52	Wyoming	94.78
			33	Rhode Island	100.39	53	Utah	93.90
			34	Pacific Area	100.34	LAST	Panama Canal	92.12
			35	Iowa	100.264			

Marty



District Commanders-of-the-Month

June

DIV I District 7 Ohio Ray Bayless (3)	DIV II District 21 Florida Harry E. Burroughs (6)	DIV III District 20 Pennsylvania G. F. (Jerry) Kolb (4)	DIV IV District 19 Florida Roscoe R. Staley (7)
DIV V District 20 California Tom Pearson (7)	DIV VI District 5 North Carolina Harold Hill (3)	DIV VII District 3 South Carolina William H. Chapman (7)	DIV VIII District 14 Louisiana A. E. Gossett

All of these Commanders, except Commander Gossett, received the honor for May. He succeeded Commander Perry Hickman (9) of District 14, Arkansas, Division VIII. (Parenthetical figure indicates number of times Commander has won this honor.)

Post Commanders-of-the-Month

June

DIV I Post 1114 Indiana Orbit Scott (10)	DIV II Post 8541 Texas Lenwood Tant	DIV III Post 6712 Massachusetts Vincent P. Reed, Jr. (6)	DIV IV Post 9223 California Elbert C. Theisen (6)	DIV V Post 4809 Virginia Walter G. Bryan (9)
DIV VI Post 5996 South Carolina Marion H. Evans (4)	DIV VII Post 2506 Pennsylvania Burnell W. Moul (3)	DIV VIII Post 9978 Alaska Leander P. Carr	DIV IX Post 6180 Florida Peter Puentes (7)	DIV X Post 6018 North Carolina Dorris Derrick
DIV XI Post 3620 New Jersey John R. Murray (6)	DIV XII Post 10252 Alaska Vernon L. Jones (9)	DIV XIII Post 6480 North Carolina Bobby G. Canupp (7)	DIV XIV Post 8496 North Carolina Lyle C. Baxley (5)	DIV XV Post 10506 Germany Jerry C. Higgins
DIV XVI Post 5483 North Carolina James C. Rich (6)	DIV XVII Post 9808 Virginia Charles B. Wilkerson (4)	DIV XVIII Post 4517 Arkansas Bobby D. Hoggard (8)	DIV XIX Post 10578 Colorado James D. Fiedler	DIV XX Post 8063 California Robert Joost (3)

All of these Commanders, except Tant, Theisen, Carr, Derrick, Higgins and Fiedler, won the honor for May. Commander Tant succeeded Commander Don Williams, of Post 6796, Texas, Division II. Commander Theisen replaced Commander Robert E. Randall, of Post 3982, California, Division IV. Commander Carr edged out Commander Michael T. Gorman, 51, of Post 2097, Connecticut, Division VIII. Commander Derrick succeeded Commander Kenneth B. Crouch, 21, of Post 10124, New Mexico, Division X. Commander Higgins replaced Commander Clarence J. Smuder, 7, of Post 7721, Florida, Division XV. Commander Fiedler replaced Commander Roosevelt Parker, 51, of Post 8063, Alabama, Division XX. (Parenthetical figure indicates number of times Commander has won this honor.)

National Aides-de-Camp

The following VFW members have distinguished themselves by winning appointments as National Aides-de-Camp, Recruiting Class, for April and May, 1985. To be eligible for this award, a member must collect the dues of at least 50 new or re-instated members, or any combination of both totalling 50.

Ray Walton, Post 5059, Turlock, Calif.; Tony Wasinger, Post 964, Ft. Logan, Colo.; Richard J., Fitzgerald, Post 7721, Golden Gates, Fla.; T.D. Culpepper, Post 5032, Macon, Ga.; Don Mellon, Post 696, Owensboro, Ky.; Jimmy L. Allison, Post 2572,

Vicksburg, Miss.; Kenneth H. Steele, Post 2280, Bellevue, Neb.; Louis V. Pierno, Post 4914, Willingboro, N.J.; Carl A. Robinson, Sr., Post 641, Columbia, S.C.; Charles D. Colley, Post 834, San Antonio, Texas; Leo J. Bisson, Post 8246, Vidor, Texas; Donald Cunningham, Post 7591, Madison, Wis.; Danny R. Woods, Post 8412, Man, W. Va.; Virgil Olson, Post 7037, Waubeka, Wis.; Howard Hutchins, Post 668, Birmingham, Ala.; Roy H. Owens, Post 924, Anniston, Ala.; William P. Hawkins, Post 1966, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.; Melvin A. Elkins, Jr., Post 8207, Longwood, Fla.; William Seventko,

Post 2640, Wallington, N.J.; George R. Silvers, Jr., Post 8867, Brick Town, N.J.; Paul Niedzwiecki, Post 1857, Oklahoma City, Okla.; Thomas T. Sullivan, Post 7523, Mineola, Texas; and Charles B. Wilkerson, Post 9808, Mechanicsville, Va.

Claude E. Winney, Post 720, Phoenix, Ariz.; Ed Schneiderman, Post 9400, Sunny-slope, Ariz.; J. Pat Cassidy, Post 9972, Sierra Vista, Ariz.; Paul W. Fox, Post 2111, Chula Vista, Calif.; George S. Lindeboom, Post 2655, Nevada City, Calif.; Charles E. Hecker, Post 3788, San Diego, Calif.; Gerald E.

Continue on page 46

National Aides-de-camp

continued from page 45

Gelersbach, and David E. Terwilliger, Post 9223, Riverside, Calif.; Frank M. Cairk, Post 9241, Georgetown, Calif.; Richard A. Brown, Post 1011, Peabody, Mass.; Rhiny Weber, Post 2764, Valley City, N.D.; Dorris Derrick and Frederick Young, Jr., Post 6018, Fayetteville, N.C.; Ronnie Long, Post 8596, Bladenboro, N.C.; Joseph Hannon, Post 283, Kingston, Pa.; Ronald A. Hartlaub, Post 2506, Hanover, Pa.; Jerry L. Cunningham, Post 6975, Bristol, Va.; and Emil H. Garrison, Post 969, Tacoma, Wash.

D. J. Rynerson, Post 9541, Yuma, Ariz.; Joe Cicchimelli, Post 10743, Sedona, Ariz.; Frederick Hensley, Post 4451, Mena, Ark.; George Capuzzo, Post 875, W. Los Angeles, Calif.; Ernie A. Sanford, Post 1932, Red Bluff, Calif.; Turlock, Calif.; Francis T. Guckian, Post 9236, Spring Hill, Fla.; William R. Schlickman, Post 10069, Port St. Joe, Fla.; Ron E. Peach, Post 4276, Mt. Carmel, Ill.; James B. Ishmael, Post 1834, Flemingsburg, Ky.; Donald A. Smith, Post 10281, Vine Grove, Ky.; Richard F. Lombard, Post 3789, Florien, La.; Vincent J. DeStefano, Post 2346,

Saugus, Mass.; John Hightower, Post 3791, Flint, Mich.; Richard Ferguson, Post 1639, Willmar, Minn.; William R. Reed, Post 209, Missoula, Mont.; David J. Paulson, Post 131, Lincoln, Neb.; Joe E. Todd, Post 2179, Middletown, N.J.; Steve Szabo, Post 2290, Manville, N.J.; Stanley Pawlowski, Post 1419, Hamburg, N.Y.; Fred D. Boege, Post 8073, Whiteville, N.C.; Paul N. Bernarding, Post 1810, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Cornelius F. Kelleher, Post 7175, Millington, Tenn.; Arthur Bishop, Post 4402, Dallas, Texas; Floyd R. Lewis, Post 10352, Hudson, Texas; Walter F. Collins, Post 4809, Norfolk, Va.; Donald A. Barney, Post 1428, Tacoma, Wash.; Perry Butcher, Post 1064, Huntington, W. Va.; and Leon D. Jacobs, Post 9957, Taipei, Taiwan.

Charles L. Capps, Post 3407, Ensley, Ala.; Robert V. Bodey, Post 2266, Hemet, Calif.; Delbert C. Rock, Post 6590, Cookstown, N.J.; Carl U. Shenk, Jr., Post 3376, Ephrata, Pa.; Magnus O. Meyer, Post 837, San Antonio, Texas; Gene Dearing, Post 1475, Amarillo, Texas; Archie Overbeck, Ray Wengler and Lenwood Tant, Post 8541, San

Antonio, Texas.

Dominic Romano, Post 7330, Oakville, Conn.; La Vern Van Koeveering, Post 3023, Grand Rapids, Mich.; Harry Jones, Post 7410, Bellmawr, N.J.; Charles E. Zattau, Post 3003, Findlay, Ohio; Robert Weir, Post 7843, Duncanville, Texas; and Arthur F. Mager, Post 8577, Copperas Cove, Texas.

George W. Long, Post 8152, Orlando, Fla.; Raymond Effinger, Post 1616, Williamstown, N.J.; James C. Felice, Post 10143, Burlington, N.J.; Eugene J. Bailey, Post 2250, Hornell, N.Y.; Gilbert Moulton, Post 6433, Waterloo, N.Y.; Michael F. Stokes, Post 7916, Woodbridge, Va.; and LeRoy Bunders, Post 10296, Poquoson, Va.

Stephen Hudobenko, Post 7330, Oakville, Conn.; Paul D. Kennedy, Post 8773, Junction City, Kans.; Arthur E. Murrell, Post 3023, Grand Rapids, Mich.; Stephen Lazorchak, Post 3484, Toms River, N.J.; and Oakley H. Smith, Post 5382, Scioma, Pa.

William Timmons, Post 9978, Anchorage, Alaska, and Buford Hudson, Post 2147, Wichita Falls, Texas.

Posts of 1,000 Members or More

Recorded as of June 10, 1985

Post Place	No.	Location	1984-85 Membership
1	1114	Evansville, IN	4,141
2	3579	Park Ridge, IL	2,831
3	628	Sioux Falls, SD	2,641
4	47	Uniontown, PA	2,528
5	1146	St. Clair Shores, MI	2,524
6	5555	Richfield, MN	2,502
7	1064	Huntington, WV	2,478
8	1308	Alton, IL	2,386
9	131	Lincoln, NE	2,233
10	49	Mobile, AL	2,215
11	360	Mishawaka, IN	2,164
12	1273	Rapid City, SD	2,161
13	1296	Bloomington, MN	2,099
14	2539	Guilford, MS	2,034
15	401	Albuquerque, NM	1,966
16	2290	Manville, NJ	1,940
17	6506	Rosedale, MD	1,933
18	6704	Mechanicsburg, PA	1,933
19	3382	Kingsport, TN	1,921
20	969	Tacoma, WA	1,873
21	283	Kingston, PA	1,864
22	249	Butler, PA	1,852
23	6640	Metairie, LA	1,851
24	379	Yakima, WA	1,800
25	6975	Bristol, VA	1,782
26	8541	San Antonio, TX	1,776
27	2100	Everett, WA	1,750
28	2012	Abilene, TX	1,737
29	641	Columbia, SC	1,734
30	7987	New Port Richey, FL	1,719
31	4372	Odessa, TX	1,718
32	573	Clarksburg, WV	1,675
33	6796	Dallas, TX	1,656
34	5263	Fort Sill, OK	1,656
35	1000	Independence, MO	1,655
36	2503	Omaha, NE	1,638
37	9400	Sunnyslope, AZ	1,632
38	549	Tucson, AZ	1,624
39	1275	Lima, OH	1,624
40	9619	Morningside, MD	1,623
41	2704	South Omaha, NE	1,620
42	1599	Chambersburg, PA	1,620
43	367	Joliet, IL	1,610
44	501	Denver, CO	1,604
45	1736	Alexandria, LA	1,598
46	1003	Jefferson City, MO	1,589
47	1650	Topeka, KS	1,587
48	3851	Carmi, IL	1,583
49	1989	Indiana, PA	1,581
50	1079	Elyria, OH	1,577
51	6712	Revere, MA	1,564
52	9191	Killeen, TX	1,541
53	7330	Oakville, CT	1,536
54	2754	West View, PA	1,529
55	5632	St. Louis Park, MN	1,528
56	3962	Corinth, MS	1,521
57	4057	Tupelo, MS	1,515
58	1	Denver, CO	1,510
59	53	Jamestown, NY	1,508
60	4087	Davidson, MI	1,500
61	891	Asheville, NC	1,497
62	832	S. Portland, ME	1,494
63	23	Lebanon, PA	1,482
64	1621	Janesville, WI	1,480
65	1475	Amarillo, TX	1,470
66	7119	Indianapolis, IN	1,465
67	3777	Festus, MO	1,463
68	4903	Tucson, AZ	1,462
69	3892	Harker Heights, TX	1,457
70	112	Wichita, KS	1,453
71	1432	Salina, KS	1,449
72	5225	West Memphis, AR	1,448
73	5206	Hendersonville, NC	1,433
74	733	Mason City, IA	1,432
75	577	Tulsa, OK	1,430
76	6896	Detroit, MI	1,406
77	2529	Sandusky, OH	1,403
78	447	Albert Lea, MN	1,399
79	1857	Oklahoma City, OK	1,398
80	1865	Kenosha, WI	1,378
81	6874	Lemon Grove, CA	1,376
82	1810	Brentwood, PA	1,375
83	295	South St. Paul, MN	1,367
84	972	Terre Haute, IN	1,365
85	6251	Cheektowaga, NY	1,359
86	3160	Norfolk, VA	1,354
87	7175	Millington, TN	1,351
88	2199	Joliet, IL	1,347
89	2346	Saugus, MA	1,340
90	1216	Austin, MN	1,340
91	428	Saint Cloud, MN	1,321
92	589	Hazleton, PA	1,320
93	762	Fargo, ND	1,320
94	4848	Chattanooga, TN	1,314
95	1590	Daytona Beach, FL	1,313
96	2093	Orlando, FL	1,309
97	2940	West Seneca, NY	1,296
98	3838	Cape Girardeau, MO	1,288
99	2702	Huntsville, AL	1,266
100	1435	Spokane, WA	1,257
101	9223	Arlington, CA	1,248
102	1536	Sayre, PA	1,245
103	1201	Ponca City, OK	1,243
104	3790	Logansport, IN	1,240
105	1863	Solon, OH	1,236
106	1639	Willmar, MN	1,228
107	2640	Wallington, NJ	1,216
108	4051	Colorado Springs, CO	1,214
109	1120	Indianapolis, IN	1,213
110	137	Duluth, MN	1,202
111	1115	Hillsville, VA	1,200
112	8919	El Paso, TX	1,199
113	1411	Cumberland, MD	1,198
114	4488	Grenada, MS	1,189
115	305	Eau Claire, WI	1,188
116	1474	Spokane, WA	1,187
117	658	Macon, GA	1,184
118	1990	Greeneville, TN	1,172
119	6240	Russell, KS	1,169
120	3074	Lexington, NC	1,162
121	3376	Ephrata, PA	1,162
122	1271	Central Falls, RI	1,159
123	1848	Jackson, TN	1,156
124	668	Birmingham, AL	1,149
125	9186	San Antonio, TX	1,148
126	2130	Lake Charles, LA	1,144

REUNIONS

127	6827	St. Petersburg, FL	1,140
128	191	Canonsburg, PA	1,139
129	7686	Alamogordo, NM	1,133
130	4256	Madeira Beach, FL	1,132
131	145	Bridgeport, CT	1,131
132	10209	Spring Hill, FL	1,128
133	7069	Clarks Summit, PA	1,125
134	382	El Reno, OK	1,125
135	155	Johnstown, PA	1,125
136	9337	Gastonia, NC	1,121
137	3982	Santa Clara, CA	1,112
138	943	Ashtabula, OH	1,111
139	8790	Houston, TX	1,110
140	425	Hopkins, MN	1,107
141	1087	Great Falls, MT	1,105
142	3368	Mt. Pleasant, PA	1,105
143	1693	New Albany, IN	1,103
144	1326	Bismarck, ND	1,101
145	5108	Marietta, OH	1,094
146	4075	Frankfort, KY	1,084
147	639	Malden, MA	1,084
148	3373	Pascagoula, MS	1,081
149	4548	Jacksonville, AR	1,081
150	2867	Briarcliff, NJ	1,080
151	2496	Alpena, MI	1,079
152	167	Charleroi, PA	1,075
153	1944	Puente, CA	1,074
154	1936	Hagerstown, MD	1,066
155	5266	Morristown, TN	1,065
156	529	Somerville, MA	1,065
157	495	Columbus, OH	1,063
158	3042	Laurel, MS	1,062
159	905	Gardner, MA	1,062
160	1720	Grand Rapids, MN	1,061
161	5064	McMinnville, TN	1,057
162	5542	Bristol, PA	1,053
163	1383	Klamath Falls, OR	1,052
164	1754	Huntingdon, PA	1,050
165	6800	Somerville, MA	1,049
166	737	Council Bluffs, IA	1,046
167	950	Mankato, MN	1,039
168	3553	Chester, IL	1,033
169	5220	Oak Lawn, IL	1,031
170	245	Sellersville, PA	1,028
171	3383	Akron, OH	1,028
172	2716	Wilmington, WV	1,027
173	788	Cedar Rapids, IA	1,026
174	4809	Norfolk, VA	1,026
175	2562	Silver Spring, MD	1,024
176	9539	Spartanburg, SC	1,020
177	99	Decatur, IL	1,016
178	1069	Fairfield, OH	1,015
179	3023	Grand Rapids, MI	1,015
180	2785	Albany, GA	1,014
181	2149	Bensenville, IL	1,014
182	3588	Lake Worth, FL	1,013
183	5996	Anderson, SC	1,011
184	5631	Sanford, NC	1,011
185	5179	San Diego, CA	1,010
186	9969	Del City, OK	1,009
187	696	Owensboro, KY	1,008
188	673	Jasper, IN	1,008
189	1212	Parkersburg, WV	1,006
190	2520	Berlin, NH	1,005
191	701	Lansing, MI	1,003
192	1386	Kingston, NY	1,002
193	2111	Chula Vista, CA	1,000

AIR FORCE

SEPTEMBER

1st Aircraft Rep. Unit (Floating)—Dave Shurm, 18823 Joan Dr., Pittsburgh, PA 15235
1st Svc. Sqdn.—Eugene Turlis, 12 Juliana Dr., Danville, IL 61832
1st Strat. Air Dep. Assn. (1942-46)—Earl Dosey, 7336 Mikesell Dr., Indianapolis, IN 46260
2d Air Div.—James Reeves, POB 98, Moultrie, GA 31768
3d Staff Sqdn. (Sherman Field)—Roscoe Swenson, 2053 Highland, Salina, KS 67401
4th Airdrome Sqdn. (WWII)—Walt Chmel, 58C Kirby Close, Yorktown Hts., NY 10598
6th Svc. Sqdn.—443d Sub Depot—Fred Tichnell, 136 Darby St., Wilmington, NC 28403
7th Airdrome Sqdn.—Pete Petrucci, 350 W Carqacas, Hershey, PA 17033
12th Bomb. Grp.—Bob Wilson, 2380 Duckabush Rd., Brinnon, WA 98320
12th Obs.—Tac. Recon-Photo. Recon. Sqdn.—David Sopko, 3644 Irma Ave., Youngstown, OH 44502
13th Ftr. Command, Sig. HQ & HQ Co.—Richard Steager, 4261 Summit Dr., Hood River, OR 97031
17th Bomb. Grp. Assn.—17th Bomb Grp. Reunion Assn., 6776 E Northwest Hwy., Dallas, TX 75251
19th Trp. Carrier Sqdn.—Thecon Johnson, 5413 Lake wood Blvd., Lakewood, CO 80112
21st Weather Sqdn. & 40th Mobile Comm. Sqdn.—Chas. Chenault, 1012 Challenger, Austin, TX 78734
40th Bomb. Grp.—Oris Cox, 21 West, 111 Coronet Rd., Lombard, IL 60118
43d Bomb Grp. Assn.—Lloyd Boren, 102 Beechwood, Universal City, TX 78118
46th Air Svc. Sqdn.—Leonard Letske, 14515 W Goodwin Rd., Stanwood, WA 98292
48th Svc. Grp., HQ & HQ Sqdn. (WWII)—Selwyn Clark, Rt. 3, Montpelier, OH 43543
46th Trp. Carrier Sqdn.—Richard P. Brown, 509 Clay, Carey, OH 43316
47th Trp. Carrier Sqdn.—T.R. Sankey, 138 Green Manor Dr., Butler, PA 16001
50th Air Base Sqdn.—Edgar Quillen, 201 Kyle St., Kingsport, TN 37665
54th Ftr. Sqdn. (WWII)—Lester Arnold, 1607 Rush more, Colorado Springs, CO 80910
57th Ftr. Grp. (WWII)—Thomas Tilley, 1638 Collins Rd., Colorado Springs, CO 80918
58th Ftr. Control Sqdn. (WWII)—George Medeiros, POB 241, Tres Pines, CA 95075
62d Trp. Carrier Grp. (WWII)—Virgil Preston, 1507 Aster Pl., Cincinnati, OH 45221
71st Bomb. Sqdn. (SWPA, WWII)—C.M. Benbow, POB 145, Oakridge, NC 27310
72d & 86th Air Svc. Sqdns. (CBI, WWII)—Chester Crocker, 3416 Pleasant Dr., Midwest City, OK 73110
75th Trp. Carrier Sqdn.—Robert Richards, 139 Kiser Dr., Tipp City, OH 45371
82d & 328th Ftr. Control Sqdns. & 582 Air W Bn.—Richard Deichmann, 1012 Robert, Ferguson, MO 63135
91st Trp. Carrier Sqdn.—Milton Dank, 1022 Serpen tine Lane, Wyncote, PA 19095
304th Ftr. Sqdn. Assn.—Tracy Little, 3011 Westover St., Shreveport, LA 71108
307th Bomb. Wing Enlisted Maint. Personnel—Billy Williams, 5141 N 72d St., Lincoln, NE 68057
309th Ftr. Sqdn., Radio Sect. (WWII)—B.W. Parsley, Malta, IL 60150
315th Bomb. Wing (WWII)—George Harrington, 1600 Ocean Beach Blvd., Apt. 505, Cocoa Beach, FL 32941
315th Svc. Grp.—Milton Buhr, 322 Holly, Owatonna, MN 55060
319th Bomb. Grp.—Warren Thrallkill, 2509 Newby Rd. SW, Huntsville, AL 35805
325th Ftr. Grp. (WWII)—George Liston, 13655 NE 10th Ave., N Miami, FL 33161
328th Ftr. Control Sqdn.—John Elwood, 5716 N 34th Dr., Phoenix, AZ 85017
330th Bomb. Grp.—Robert Woliver, 8704 Point West Rd., Austin, TX 78759
339th Ftr. Grp. (WWII)—Chet Malarz, 2405 Kings Point Dr., Atlanta, GA 30338
339th Svc. Sqdn.—Phil Zito, 4 Villa Pl., Novato, CA 94917
341 Ftr. Sqdn. (SWPA, WWII)—John McAllister, 1437 Coble Ave., Hacienda Heights, CA 91745

349th Air Engr. Sqdn. (WWII)—Franklin Watson, 2521 18th St., Columbus, IN 47201
357th Ftr. Grp.—Frank Gailer, 6011 Woodwick Dr., San Antonio, TX 78239
370th Bomb. Sqdn.—Ira Anderson, 1800 Sybil Lane, Tyler, TX 75703
380th Bomb. Grp. (WWII)—Forrest Thompson, 2401 Lakeview Dr., Heber Springs, AR 72543
429th Bomb. Sqdn.—C.B. Couch, 5663 Mitchell Way, Douglasville, GA 30135
445th Bomb. Grp.—Francis DiMola, 390 Madison Ave., New Milford, NJ 07646
446th Bomb. Grp. (England, WWII)—W.F. Davenport, 13762 Loretta Dr., Santa Ana, CA 92705
447th Sub Depot—Fred Larsen, POB 1, Yalaha, FL 32797
451st Bomb. Sqdn.—James Crumbliss, 2014 Shady Grove Dr., Bossier City, LA 71112
455th Bomb. Sqdn. (WWII)—Ben Goldsmith, POB 1627 RFD 1, Rockland, ME 04941
457th Bomb. Grp. Assn.—Homer Briggs, 811 Northwest B St., Bentonville, AR 72712
561st SAW Bn., Co. D—Frank Kohoutek, 3044 S Komen sky Ave., Chicago, IL 60623
585th Bomb. Sqdn.—Tom O'Brien, 1907 Rio Vista Dr., Fort Pierce, FL 33449
595th Sig. Air Warning Bn. (WWII)—Joseph Brung ton, 8442 via De Los Libros, Scottsdale, AZ 85258
671st Bomb. Sqdn. (WWII)—Jim Kerns, 2411 Hoff man Dr., Guyahoga Falls, OH 44223
870th Chem. Co. Air Opns. (Salpan, WWII)—Edward Kleindienst, 41 Judge Lane, Bethlehem, CT 06751
904th Sig. Co. Depot (Avn.) (WWII)—A.R. Ballinger, 1019 E Jordin St., Appleton, WI 54911
1370th PMG, APCS, ACGS—Roman Contos, 201 Ori noco St., Dayton, OH 45431
1958 Ord. Depot Co.—Richard Daniels, River Forest Apts. 27, Roscommon, MI 48653
7011th Pers. Processing Sqdn.—Glenn Brown, 10042 Knox Dr., Overland Park, KS 66212
BAD 2 Assn. (England, WWII)—Charles Deavers, 2555 Burchard Dr., St. Louis, MO 63136
Northeast Air Command (Newfoundland, 1948-53)—Richard Larue, 1411 Airport Rd., COS, CO 80910
P-51 Mustang Pilots Assn. & 530th Ftr. Sqdn.—Don Bennett, POB 552, Newport, NH 03773
Sioux City Army Air Base—Joe Lukac, 506 Jackson St., Port Clinton, OH 44452

ALL BRANCHES

SEPTEMBER

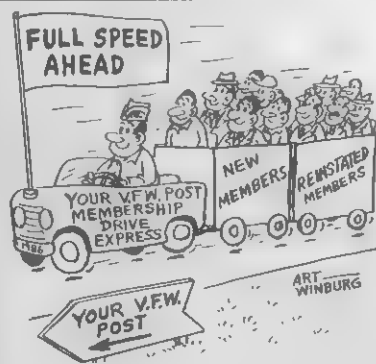
American Ex-POW's, Dept. of Wis.—Francis Sawyer, 2730 Bluffview Pl., La Crosse, WI 54601
Ft. Hancock, N.J.—Sandy Hook Vets Hist. Society, POB 35, Highlands, NJ 07732
Indiana Vietnam Veterans—Howard County Vietnam Veterans Org., POB 6104, Kokomo, IN 46902
Namwon, Korea, Ex-POW's—Eldred Anderson, 1009 Washington St., Leavenworth, KS 66048
Nat. Assn. of CCC—NACCCA, 7245 Arlington Blvd., Falls Church, VA 22041
Nat. Order of Battlefield Commissions—Hubert Reda, 1013 Ironwood Dr., Las Vegas, NV 89108
Nat. Stearman Fly-In—Ted McCullough, 2310 Mon mouth Blvd., Galesburg, IL 61401
Nat. WWII Glider Pilots Assn.—Virginia Randolph, 136 W Main St., Freehold, NJ 07728
North Africa-Corsica-Southern France Veterans—Dieter Friedrich, 14 Quai Antoine 1st, Monte Carlo, Monaco via France
Pearl Harbor Survivors—Robert McClintock, 3215 Albert St., Orlando, FL 32806
Roswell Army-Air Field, Walker AFB Veterans Assn.—RAAF Veterans Assn., POB 8092, Roswell, NM 88201
3046 PTR Co.—Robert Anderson, RD 6 Box 48A, Kingston, NY 12401

ARMY

SEPTEMBER

1st Inf., Co. D—Lionie Thavenet, Newman Grove, NE 68758

Continued on page 51



VFW-Sponsored Cash Value Life Plan

The VFW-Sponsored Cash Value Life Plan was designed to help members bring their life insurance coverage up-to-date as easily and economically as possible. The Plan has been widely accepted because it offers members the opportunity to protect the financial futures of their loved ones better.

National Headquarters introduced this plan in 1980 to answer an urgent need expressed by many VFW members who realized the life insurance they purchased in the past was no longer enough to provide adequately for their families should something happen to them.

The dramatic rise in the cost of living over the years has severely reduced the purchasing power of life insurance bought just 10 years ago. In fact, if you bought a \$10,000 policy back in 1967, today it would buy less than half of what it would back then.

The only solution to this problem is to get more life insurance, but unfortunately, the older you get the more expensive life insurance becomes. But the VFW-Sponsored Cash Value Life Plan has turned things around because it gives all members under age 65 the chance to get the amount of coverage they need at an economical group rate that's good for all ages.

No member under age 65 can be turned down as long as a few simple requirements can be met. This is made possible because a reduced

benefit is paid for death during the first two years. However, the full benefit is always payable for accidental death. This is permanent coverage. Once you are insured, the plan stays in force as long as premiums are paid when due. The insurance company cannot cancel your coverage or reduce your benefit when you get older.

Because this is "cash value" life insurance, the longer you keep the insurance the greater the cash value builds over the years. If you stop paying premiums and cash in your Certificate of Coverage, whatever cash value has accumulated is yours

to take. Or you can stop paying your premium and be insured for a reduced amount of paid-up insurance.

As with all VFW-sponsored plans, this Cash Value Plan is fully endorsed and recommended to members under age 65 as the best plan of its kind for the money. It has earned the Official VFW Seal of Approval.

All members who are not covered under this Plan and need protection can call toll free 1-800-821-2606, between 8:30 a.m. and 4 p.m., CST, any business day. (In Missouri, call collect 816-561-2338.) The information is free and there is no risk or obligation on your part.

Purchase Power Update Records & Cassettes

National Headquarters announces that this benefit now covers compact discs, as well as all new records and cassettes.

Members receive an extra Purchase Power Discount of 10% on the Special Yellow Section of the catalog (old records, hard to find records, special buys and the like). Discounts for volume and cash payment are also available.

Send for a free spring catalog and get a toll free number you may use for orders. You'll get your choice of a free record cleaning cloth or cassette head cleaner with your first catalog order. Send to IRTC, P.O. Box 833, Gracie Station, New York, N.Y. 10028.

Be sure to note your membership I.D. numbers.

Telephone Update

This is a current listing of all phone numbers for appliances, TVs and video equipment.

Appliances and TVs

In California..... 800-821-5601
In Far West..... 800-821-3713
(Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, New Mexico, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wyoming)
In New York..... 800-962-1281
All Other Areas..... 800-922-9213

Video

In New York..... 800-962-1281
All Other Areas..... 800-922-9213



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The Excelsior Institute Clinic, devoted to the **NON-SURGICAL** methods of treatment for diseases peculiar to older men, has a new **FREE BOOK** that tells how these troubles may be corrected. The **NON-SURGICAL** treatments described in this book require no surgery, hospitalization or long period of convalescence. Treatments take but a short time and the cost is reasonable. Write today. This book may prove of utmost importance to you. No obligation.

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Vets' Front Line

By Cooper T. Holt
Executive Director, Washington Office

The work done by many Service Officers goes unrecognized while they toil for the veteran, his widow and orphan, but we in the VFW consider them the front line troops to whom the veteran turns for help. The Service Officers are the bulwark of the system which rewards those who are in need and who continue to stand for freedom.

They can be compared to the infantryman. It takes technicians, pilots, sailors and great leaders to maneuver large forces around the world, but the infantryman captures the hill and wins the ground.

So it is the Service Officer to win the claim, the appeal, the change of discharge and the trust of the veteran who believes that no one cares about his problem.

The Service Officers are the front-line troops, who meet the discouraged veteran in his hometown and help him fight the battle after the battle in combat.

The VFW depends on the Service Officer for the technical competence to assist veterans in the pursuit of their hard-won programs, for advice on future problems so we can help in Washington and to inform your elected representatives about the special difficulties veterans face.

National service organizations relate to the VA and Congress to better achieve our common mission and objectives of providing the highest quality or diversified services to the veteran, his widow and orphan.

The VFW is dedicated to the rehabilitation and well-being of the veteran and his dependents at no financial cost to the veteran, whether or not the veteran belongs to the VFW.

The VFW reaches into virtually every community in the United States through its Posts. It has representa-

tives or Service Officers in every VA Regional Office. Through field representatives and the massive Veterans Administration Volunteer Service program, the VFW gains insight into the problems, strong points and funding needs of every VA medical facility. National VFW offices in Washington, D.C., serve veterans by providing a conduit for important information between various field locations, Congress and the Administration and by cutting through red tape to solve problems.

Service Officers represent claimants from the regional office level all the way through the Board of Veterans Appeals in matters relating to compensation, pension, educational benefits, discharge upgrades and many others. Volunteers donate millions of manhours and dollars annually in assisting those who are hospitalized — to raise their morale

The VFW depends on the Service Officer to assist veterans in the pursuit of their hard-won programs, for advice on future problems so we can help in Washington and to inform your elected representatives about the special difficulties veterans face.

and, it is hoped, to speed their recovery. VFW professional staffs in Washington work hard to coordinate and facilitate the orderly flow of information to and from the Administration and Congress to preserve veterans' programs and to get the needed material and human resources that keep the VA system going at a high rate of efficiency.

Because of these efforts between the veterans' committees of the

Congress, the Veterans Administration at all levels and the national veterans' organizations, a power base has been formed — the so-called iron triangle — to serve the largest consumer constituency in the nation, the veterans. To preserve this bond, what should the national service organizations expect of the VA?

First, candor and to cut red tape and to solve problems, the facts.

Second, loyalty to the VFW's mission of serving veterans. This transcends every VA Administrator and Administration.

The VA must be a flexible agency to meet the changing needs of veterans. The VFW's vantage point enables this organization to assist the VA in adapting to the needed changes in the delivery of services. The VFW also interprets to Congress, on behalf of the VA and veterans, its support of needed changes in the law and funding levels to facilitate those changes.

To do a good job of this, the VFW must have the VA's candid cooperation and its loyalty.

What should the VA expect of national veterans' service organizations? Simply, they must earn the confidence and respect the doctrine of confidentiality in informal communications with the VA.

Service is a bridge between all levels of the VA and between the VA and Congress. The VFW has worked to earn the VA's trust. The many changes in laws and resulting improvements in service to veterans bear witness to the success of this arrangement. Without mutual trust and work, many successful improvements may not have occurred — whether or not we were all in agreement about them.

What should national veteran service organizations expect of Congress? First, it must be understood

Continue on page 50

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COMMAND POST

Continued from page 6

electing me your first Commander-in-Chief who is a Vietnam veteran. This recognition emphasizes the impact Vietnam veterans are making on American society. Among the others honored were Sen. Larry Pressler, Rocky Bleier, the former Pittsburgh Steeler; Jan Scruggs, president of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, and Gov. Charles Robb, of Virginia.

Another highlight of the year was the issuance of the Vietnam veterans stamp and the dedication of the statue of the Three Fightingmen at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington. It was an unforgettable experience to see all the veterans of our wars of this century—and the VFW caps—gathered there on Veterans Day.

All this was possible because of you. To each member of the VFW and the Ladies Auxiliary, a most heartfelt thank you. I will be forever in your debt.

SERVICE WINS

Continued from page 49

that we believe one of the most important duties of citizenship is the obligation to bear arms in defense of our country. Second, we believe this obligation places a responsibility on the government to pay particular attention to the needs and well-being of this nation's veterans subsequent to that service. Congress has responded positively to our point of view by enacting legislation over the years that has provided readjust-

Service Officers' work is cut out for them. As the front line troops who deal with veterans' problems on a daily basis, they know their needs and their concerns.

ment, compensation, pension and medical care benefits for veterans.

The main task now is to convince Congress that these programs should remain under the control of the VA and should be appropriately funded. Many powerful and vocal groups, within and outside government, would destroy the VA as we know it today. They would dismantle the medical system, parcel out veterans' health care to the private sector, send veterans to community facilities as virtual welfare cases or subject veterans to other demeaning demands that have as their sole purpose denial of health care to veterans. These groups would strip veterans of most of their hardwon gains.

Service Officers' work is cut out for them. As the front line troops who deal with veterans' problems on a daily basis, they know their needs and their concerns. They know the veterans look to the VFW to work for them and to protect the VA — and ultimately themselves — from the forces that would relegate veterans to the status of second-class citizens in the country for which they rendered first-class service.

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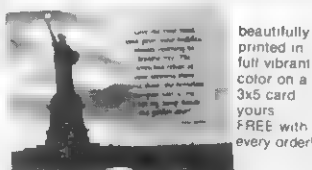
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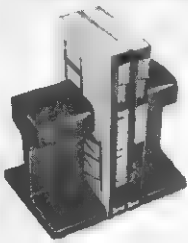
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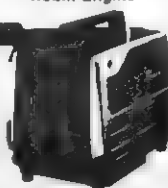
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- 157th Inf. Rgt. & 158th FA Bn. (WWII)—Felix Sparks, 7900 W 23d Ave., Denver, CO 80215
165th Inf., Co. K—Howard Walker, 203 E 67th St., Kansas City, MO 64113
166th Engr. Combat Bn. (WWII)—Vincient Ricci, 89 Marlow St., Cranston, RI 02920
176th FA Bn. (WWII)—Charlie Salyers, 6528 W Franklin St., Richmond, VA 23226
202d CA (AA) Rgt.—Jack Wilson, 112 Mound St., Willow Springs, IL 60480
246th CA Ray Cross, 1209 Kerns Ave. SW, Raonoke, VA 24015
247th FA Bn., Svc. Btry.—Melvin Sandy, Rt. 2 Box 81, Stephens City, VA 22655
254th Ord. Co.—Levere Smith, 319 Overbrook Dr., York, PA 17404
267th QM Baking Co.—Jack Palmer, 1968 Middle Bellville Rd., Mansfield, OH 44904
277th Port Co.—Don Andrew, 13 Avon Ct., Turnersville, NJ 08012
281st Combat Emgr. Bn.—E.G. Jeffreys, POB 6627, Mobile, AL 36660
284th FA Bn. (WWII)—Bill Hartley, RD 1 Box 540, Montoursville, PA 17754
285th FA Obsn. Bn. (WWII)—Charles Hammer, 767 Pearl Ave., Manheim, PA 17545
301st Sig. Opns. Bn.—Matthew Severino, 1516 S 12th St., Philadelphia, PA 19147
303d Sta. Hosp. (WWII)—Betty Fisher Johnson, RR 1 Box 92, Idaville, IN 47950
304th/610th Ord. (BAM) Bn.—Hank Lusch, 5023 N Main Box 11, Long Lake, MI 48743
304th Ord. Rgt. (B), 2d Bn.—Laurence Jenkins, 2968 Duncan Dr., Wantagh, NY 11798
305th MP Escort Guard Co.—H.R. Messerschmidt, 3107 Parkway N, Hammond, IN 46423
308th Sig. Co.—Melvin Myers, 2117 S Florence, Springfield, MO 65087
310th Sig. Opns. Bn.—Earl Mitchell, Rd. 6 Box 62, Indiana, PA 15701
311th Ord. Depot Co.—Jack Scott, POB 961, Princeton, WV 24740
327th FA, Btry. C—Linton Landry, 228 Moss St., Lafayette, LA 70501
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341st QM Depot Co. (WWII)—D.A. Thomason, 85 S Zenobia St., Denver, CO 80219
341st Engr., Co. E (WWII)—James Thomas, 709 San Juan Ave., La Junta, CO 81050
344th Ord. Depot Co.—LeRoy Rodda, 531 Jackson St., Eveleth, MN 55734
359th Engr., Co. F—Glenn Atkinson, RD 1, Perryville, OH 44861
368th Engr. (WWII)—Alex Andreski, 460 Bostwick Ave., Janesville, WI 53545
377th Harbor Craft—Ken Wheeler, RR 1 Box 516A, Adams, NY 13605
439th AAA Bn.—Charles Anderson, 1518 Monongalia Ave., Willmar, MN 56201
445th Ord. HAM Co.—Leroy Law, Rt. 3 Box 175, Lexington, OK 73501
457th Amphib. Truck Co. (WWII)—Sandy Sandella, 884 Stevens St., North Brunswick, NJ 08902
464th CA (AAA) Bn.—B.C. Smithhart, Rt. 5 Box 159AD, Vicksburg, MS 39180
464th Engr. Depot Co. (WWII)—Joe Simala, 210 Center Ave., Cresson, PA 16630
471st AA Bn.—Sylvester Bales, 2942 Hwy. D, Kewaskum, WI 53040
472d Engr. Maint. Co. (WWII)—Melvin Misfeldt, POB 2248, Davenport, IA 52804
473d Inf. Rgt.—John La Prite, 736 Riverbend Rd., Linden, NJ 07036
488th Port Bn.—Sid Butterfield, 9804 Broad St., Bethesda, MD 20814
507th Para. Inf. Assn.—Alfred Britton, Jr., 5420 Fairway Dr., San Jose, CA 95127
512th Engr.—John Witt, POB 861, Marshall, WI 53559
514th QM Rgt.—Charles Fletcher, 470 E 120th St., Cleveland, OH 44108
524th MP, Co. C—Glenn Miller, 732 3d, WaKeeney, KS 67672
532d EB & SR, Co. C—Alvin Tetzloff, 726 Elm St., Marblehead, OH 43440
532d Ob. Bn. Arty/1st & 2d Ob. Bn. Arty—Dick Baumgart, 208 W Riverside Ave., Merrill, WI 54452
533d AA AW—L.F. Thompson, 3824 SW 12th St., Des Moines, IA 50315
534th AAA AW Bn., Btry. B—Wm. Lewellen, 9037 W 101st Terr., Overland Park, KS 66212
538th FA Bn./3d Bn., 28th FA—H.J. Heppner, 311 Pepperwood Cir., Mira Loma, CA 91752
558th AAA—Alfred Kahler, 1826 17th St SW, Allentown, PA 18103
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608th TD Bn.—Harry Rapp, 317 W King St., Lancaster, PA 17603
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609th TD Bn.—George Funke, 3260 Oakford Rd Trevoise, PA 19047
611th Engr.—Robert Johnson, 1206 Harrison Ave., Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814
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622d Engr. Base Equip. Co. (WWII)—Ernest Rode, 904 Tropical Lane, Key Largo, FL 33037
625th Engr. Lt. Equip. Co.—William Warner, POB 20, Jerseyville, IL 62052
625th Ord. Amm. Co.—M.J. Chatterelli, POB 363, Beach City, OH 44608
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627th QM Refrig. Co.—Eddie Held, 1212 Linwood Ave., Columbus, OH 43206
634th TD Bn., Co. B—Myron Piper, 1718 Country Club Pl., Marshalltown, IA 50158
658th Amphib. Trac. Bn.—Mike Cavanaugh, 5516 Front St., Newaygo, MI 49447
691st TD Bn.—Earl Simonds, 8706 S Spring Valley Dr., Chagrin Falls, OH 44022
704th TD Bn.—Richard Bowman, 71 Rt. 25A, Smithtown, NY 11787
709th Tank Bn.—Paul Claster, 19 Towne Terrace Apts., Middletown, NY 10940
711th Tank Bn.—Dale Van Meter, RR 2 Box 153, Arapahoe, NE 68922
712th Tank Bn.—Ray Griffin, POB 22, Aurora, NE 68818
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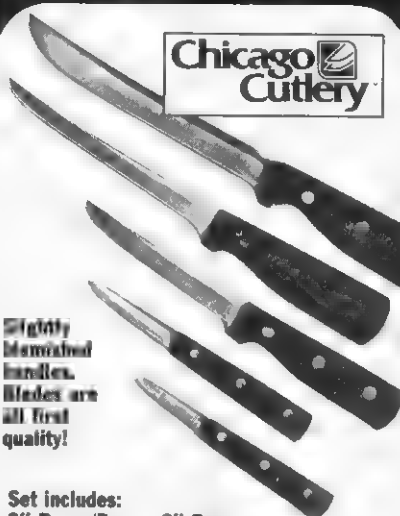
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722d ROB—Robert Seeley, 527 Gaines St., Elmira, NY 14901

724th FA Bn., Btry. C—John Turner, POB 1645, Decatur, GA 30031

735th ROB, Co. C—Robert Ward, 30 Dartmouth St., Fitchburg, MA 01420

736th Med. Tank Bn.—John Meloragno, 4472 Blythe Rd., Columbus, OH 43224

746th ROB, Mess Sect.—Whitey Henriksson, Rt 7 POB 950, Lanier Dr., Cumming, GA 30130

747th Tk. Bn. (WWII)—Joe Foley, 90 Chestnut St., Garfield, NJ 07026

750th ROB (WWII)—Richard Campbell, POB 274, Trenton, MO 64683

757th Tank Bn.—William Stanfield, 138 Mills Dr., Louisville, KY 40216

759th ROB (WWII)—Dan Nepi, 26 Joans Lane, Berlin, NJ 08009

767th Amphib. Tank Bn., Co. C—Frank Antle, 819 Price Blvd., Atchison, KS 66002

768th FA/248th CA—Otto Marion, 54 41st Ave 803, East Moline, IL 61244

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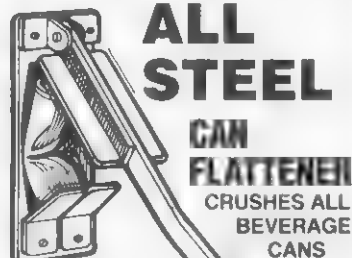
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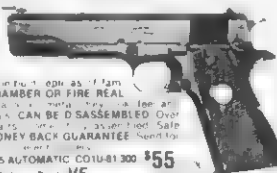


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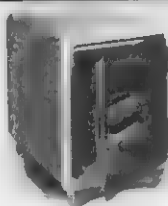
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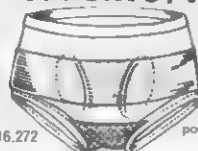
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COAST GUARD

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CG Const. Units 26-390-211—Stanley Campbell, 501 N Mason St., Mason City, IL 62664

USS Cobb (181)(WWII)—Wayne Evans, 23 Conway Dr., Middletown, PA 17057

Bering Sea Patrol Veterans—Maury Kambarn, 1815 NW 201st, Seattle, WA 98117

USS Allentown (PF52) & Escort Div. 33—Mark Crumpler, 5647 Winding Creek, Houston, TX 77017

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SEPTEMBER

2d Marine Div. Assn.—Vic Shuttera, 331 S Dearing, Fresno, CA 93702

3d Marine Div., 3d Marines, 3d Bn. (1942-43)—Andrew Bernard, 38 Pleasantview St., Methuen, MA 01841

4th Def. Bn., Btry. F (WWII)—Tony Januchowski, 6948 N Seville Ave., Glendale, WI 53209

5th Amphib. Corps, 16th Field MP Co. (WWII)—Bill Parks, 5274 Central Ave., Alameda, CA 94501

6th Marine Div. Assn.—George Booz, 125 6th St N, Safety Harbor, FL 35572

6th Sep. Wire Pltn.—Ray Jeanguenat, 20160 Holiday, Grosse Point Woods, MI 48236

9th Marine Rgt., Co. C (WWII)—Vince Petrella, 129 Wimbeldon Dr., Mansfield, OH 44906

24th Marines, H & S Co. (WWII)—John Corso, 301 Essex St., Apt. 206, Lynne, MA 01902

MAG 25/SCAT—George Phillips, 3116 Rolling Hills Knoll Dr., Dallas TX 75234

Panama Canal Zone Marine Barracks (1941-45)—John Boyce, 5115 MacNamara Dr., Fredericksburg, VA 22401

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Prov. Rocket (4.5" Barrage) Dets. (WWII)—Marvin Taylor, 2612 Main Ave. S, Brookings, SD 57006
VMF 124—Robert Erskine, 1624 Karen St., Lima, OH 45801

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3d Spec. NCB—Joe Vacek, Rt. 1 Box 62, Republican City, NE 68971
4th Beach Bn.—Walter Bryant, 7620 E 50th St., Indianapolis, IN 46226
5th NCB—Laurence Terry, 5307 Maryman Rd., Louisville, KY 40258
8th NCB—Howard Hammer, 717 2d Ave W, Kalispell, MT 59901
8th Naval Air Patrol Sqdns. VP11, VP54, VP51, VB101, PATSU 1-2—Wm Westmoreland, 12150 Marine View Dr SW, Seattle, WA 98146
16th NCB (WWII)—Glenn Wilson, 4315 Teller, Wheat Ridge, CO 80033
19th NCB—Herbert McCallen, 97 Lawrence Pk Crescent, Bronxville, NY 10708
20th NCB (WWII)—James Hensley, 5604 Exeter St., Churchton, MD 20733
21st NCB—Al Shelton, 40 N Lee Ave #31, Oakdale, CA 95361
28th NCB (WWII)—Bruno Petruccione, 43 3d St Yorkville, NY 13495
37th Spec. NCB—Richard Hamilton, Rt. 5 Box 122 Bardstown, KY 40001
38th NCB—Carl Hatter, 396 George Brewer Rd., Grass Valley, CA 95945
47th NCB (WWII)—Sam Sherrill, Rt. 1 Box 470, Marble Falls, TX 78651
59th NCB—Archie Beggs, 8625 Fairwood Rd., Mabelvale, AR 72103
63d NCB—J.C. Heffner, POB 88, Heber Springs, AR 72533
77th NCB (WWII)—B.I. Camp, 4821 Langley Rd., Ft Worth, TX 76114
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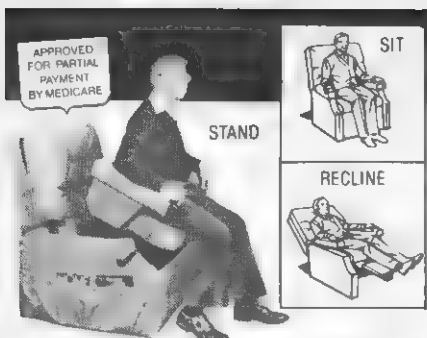
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539th CBMU (WWII)—James Smith, POB 4209, St. Louis, MO 63163

569th CBMU—Manny Baptiste, 5038 49th Ave SW, Seattle, WA 98136

Armed Guard Veterans (WWII)—Richard Langenderfer, 2601 Wyndale Rd., Toledo, OH 43613

Comp. Sqdn. Six (VC6)—H G Bradshaw, 1712 Five Forks Rd., Virginia Beach, VA 23455

Covered Wagon Assn. (CV1/AV3), USS Whipple (DD217) & Pecos (A06)—George Wad, 2005 Cordova Pl., Carlsbad, CA 92009

FASRON 118—Warren Kuhn, 3605 NE 48th St., Kansas City, MO 64119

LION FOUR—Ruben Stahl, 1621 Illinois SW, Huron, SD 57350

Naval Minewarfare Assn.—H H Stettler, 3604 Greenleaf Dr., Santa Rosa, CA 95401

NOR PAC—William Thomas, 23330 Jefferson Bch NE, Kingston, WA 98346

PATSU 1-7—Elwood Germeshausen, 400 Marsalla Ct., Sacramento, CA 95820

USS Allen M Sumner (DD692)—Roy Ferguson, 145 NE Fatima Terr., Port St. Lucie, FL 33452

USS American Legion (APA17)—John Zuella, 7434 10th St. N, St. Petersburg, FL 33702

USS Antietam (CVS36)—James Brown, Rt 1 Box 58D, Middletown, IN 47356

USS Balch (DD363) & Porterfield (DD682)—George Marcotte, 219 South Western Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90001

USS Bell (DD587)—Doug Wetherby, 1331 Fremont Ave., St. Paul, MN 55106

USS Bennion (DD662)—Thomas Gaughan, 1717 Springbrook Dr., Annadale, VA 22003

USS Bernadou (DD153)—Steve Phelps, 22 DeHaven Dr., Yonkers, NY 10703

USS Blackhawk (AD9) & assigned destroyer divs.—G H Mason, 5112 21st St. NE, Puyallup, WA 98342

USS Borie (DD215)—Bob Manning, 310 W Siesta Ave., Thousand Oaks, CA 91360

USS Bunker Hill (CV17) (WWII)—Alfred Culeman, 33 Mayflower Rd., Woburn, MA 01801

USS Cabot (CVL28) Assn.—Albert Stranaghan, 212 Ridge Rd. MR17, Millville, NJ 08332

USS Canberra (CA70/CAG2) & HMAS Canberra—James Perreten, 4401 Graywood Ave., Long Beach, CA 90808

USS Capps (DD550)—Robert Sperling, 4691 W 4365 S, Salt Lake City, UT 84120

USS Carina (AK74)—Joe Commerford, 2828 38th Ave S, Minneapolis, MN 55406

USS Charette (DD581)—G P Joyce, 2409 Lookout Ct., Virginia Beach, VA 23455

USS Chicago (CA29, CA136 & CG11)—Rex McDonald, 1660 Grand Ave., Canon City, CO 81212

USS Colorado (BB45)—Donald Ross, Rt. 2 Box 308, Richmond, MN 55368

USS Copahee (CVE12) & VGS12—Joe Downs, Rt 5 Box 130, Huntsville, AR

USS Creon (ARL11)—Sam Gatts, Starr Rd., Aliquippa, PA 15001

USS Culebra Island (ARG7)—Gene IntVeldt, 7749 Washington Ave., Whittier, CA 90602

USS Curtiss (AV4)—Francis Pavlu, 682 Medford St., El Cajon, CA 92020

USS Daniel T. Griffin (APD38/DE54)—Everett Campbell, Rt 2 Box 294, Bumpass, VA 23024

USS Detroit (CL8)—Cliff Pitts, 10031 W 86th Terr., Overland Park, KS 66212

USS Dixie (AD14)—Loren Eskelson, 116 Benton Ave., Wayzata, MN 55391

USS Dunlap (DD384)—Arthur Littlefield, 3860 S Higuera St #176, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

USS Edgar G. Chase (DE16)—Elmo Allen, 5125 Old Canton Rd #205, Jackson, MS 39211

USS Eldorado (AGC11)—Robert Perschitti, 903 S Lincoln Rd., East Rochester, NY 14415

USS Escambia (AO80)—Virgil Grier, 2144 S Everett, Wichita, KS 67213

USS Fanning (DD385)—Fred Winger, 712 Hewlett St., Bakersfield, CA 93309

USS Farenholt (DD491)—Frank Gold, 14640 Tynewick Terr., Silver Spring, MD 20906

USS Florence Nightingale (AP70)—Stan Newland, 2202 Hortense Ave., Seaford, NY 11783

USS Frybarger (DE705)—Alex Boyd, 5107 Bryce Lane, Richmond, VA 23224

USS Galveston (CLG3)—Mauris Butcher, 4754 Bill Knight Ave., Millington, TN 38053

USS Hamman (DD412) & Ganesvoort (DD608)—W J Daley, 701 S Hall, Algona, IA 50511

USS Hancock (CV/CVA19)—Charles Boyst, 801 West Bend Cr., Clemmons, NC 27012

USS Helena (CL50/CA75) & Benham (DD397)—Bill Bunker, 1139 Arcadia Ave #1, Arcadia, CA 91006

REUNIONS

USS Holder (DDE819)—Harry Hook, 132 Brookhill Rd., Newtown Square, PA 19073.

USS Hope (AH7)—Rex Wilson, POB 3613, Eureka, CA 95502.

USS Houston (CA30/CL81)—H.M. Shafman, 921 Florence Ave., Galeburg, IL 61401.

USS Hull (DD350)—J.R. Schultz, 507 Melrose Ave., Santa Cruz, CA 95062.

USS Independence (CVL22)(WWII)—Bob Spinharn, 10511 O St., Omaha, NE 68127.

USS Indiana (BB58)—Tom Ruff, 3064 Indian River Dr. NE, Palm Bay, FL 32905.

USS Isaherwood (DD520)(WWII)—T.D. Austin, 3714 39th St., Lubbock, TX 79413.

USS James E. Craig (DE201)—Sam Shell, 4538 Rivershore Dr., New Bern, NC 28560.

USS Keokuk (AKN4)—Ken Adair, POB 34, Sutter, IL 62373.

USS Kimberly (DD521)—Arthur Forster, 2312 Nela Ave., Orlando, FL 32809.

USS Lavallette (DD448)—Jerry Ingram, POB 328, Perry, GA 31069.

USS LCS-L-3-19—Carl C. Breuer, 2405 Eastman, Rolling Meadows, IL 60008.

USS LCS-L-3-121—Harold Harris, POB 3471, Cleveland, TN 37311.

USS LSM 202—Tom Adams, POB 391, Faison, NC 28341.

USS LST 321—Vince Gagliardi, 9506 D 3d Bay, Norfolk, VA 23518.

USS LST 694—Robert Kirsch, RD 4 Box 117, Evans City, PA 16033.

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NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States 1984-85 Series

General Orders No. 10

1. The following appointments are hereby announced: NATIONAL DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF: Edward R. Fletcher, Post 8664, Camillus, N.Y.
2. Posts that have not sent in a Post Election Report form, listing the Post officers for 1985-86 will not receive credentials for the National Convention.
3. Posts are reminded they must register, in advance, one or more delegates to the VFW National Convention (Section 222 of the National Constitution and By-Laws). Advance registration fee is six dollars (\$6.00) per delegate and should be mailed to Veterans of Foreign Wars 86th National Convention, The Hyatt Regency Hotel, 300 Reunion Boulevard, Dallas, Texas 75207. Registration at the Convention will be eight dollars (\$8.00).
4. The attention of all Department, District, County Council and Post Officers is directed to Section 703 of the National Constitution and By-Laws and Manual of Procedure which requires that each accountable officer of the organization shall be bonded with an indemnity company as surety in a sum at least equal to the amount of liquid assets for which, so far as can be anticipated, he may be accountable.
5. Attention is drawn to the Policy on Resolutions: Policy of the Veterans of Foreign Wars is established by resolutions adopted by the National Convention. Most such resolutions originate at the Post, County Council, District or Department levels. Those resolutions approved by a Department Convention which affect matters outside state boundaries must be forwarded by the Department Adjutant to the Adjutant General for consideration by the National Convention.

Resolutions may also be originated by Department officers or by the Department Convention itself and acted upon by the Department Convention. National officers may originate resolutions and submit them directly to the National Convention. Also, National Convention Committees may originate resolutions and present them for approval during the National Convention. Resolutions offered by delegates from Posts during the National Convention must bear the endorsement of the Department Commander or Department Adjutant and must be submitted and referred to the appropriate convention committee.

Resolutions adopted by the National Convention become the lawful orders of the National Convention and as such are binding upon all subordinate units of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. No Post, County Council, District or Department is permitted to publicly communicate contrary positions to the National By-Laws or to the resolutions adopted by the National

Convention except that proposed changes in policy may be introduced by subordinate units by the preparation, adoption and submission of resolutions within the channels of the organization for consideration as outlined above.

6. Announcement is made of correct locations of the following Posts: Post 9528, Okeechobee, Fla., and Post 9687, Brentwood, Tenn.
7. The locations of the following Posts have been changed: Post 69 from Palo Alto, Calif., to East Palo Alto, Calif.; Post 1051 from Lathrop, Calif., to Ripon, Calif.; Post 9978 from Greater Anchorage, Alaska, to Anchorage, Alaska; and Post 10158 from Reisterstown, Md., to Woodlawn, Md.
8. Certificates of charters evidencing consolidation have been issued to the following Posts: Posts 1629 and 9446 consolidated as Post 1629, Monterey, Calif.; Posts 2144 and 4622 consolidated as Post 2144, Holland, Mich.; Posts 3174 and 2340 consolidated as Post 3174, Sikeston, Mo.; Posts 1388 and 4200 consolidated as Post 1388, Buckeye Lake, Ohio; and Posts 8493 and 10229 consolidated as Post 8493, Omro, Wis.
9. Charters for the following Posts have been authorized: Post 3683, Chaparral, N.M.; Post 5458, Campbellsville, Ky.; Post 5714, New Brighton, Pa.; Post 5741, Esther, Mo.; Post 5861, Philadelphia, Pa.; Post 6880, Bluffton, Ohio; Post 7775, Charlotte, N.C.; Post 8003, Lawnside, N.J.; and Post 8352, Berkeley Township, N.J.

By Command of
BILLY RAY CAMERON
Commander-in-Chief

OFFICIAL:

Howard E. Vander Clute, Jr.
Adjutant General

General Orders No. 11

1. Posts that have not submitted a Post Election Report form listing officers for 1984-85 should do so immediately for matter of record and so that mailings can be made to the proper officers within the Post.
2. Departments that have not forwarded an official roster to National Headquarters listing the officers of their Department should do so immediately so that correspondence may be directed to the proper officers in each Department.
3. Attention of all Posts is directed to Section

107 of the National By-Laws and Manual of Procedure, "Transfers," and the provisions for the official form (Form P-150) for the transfer of members from one Post to another and the requirement for its use in accepting a member by transfer.

Posts can obtain P-150 forms by writing to their Department Headquarters or to the Membership Director, VFW National Headquarters.

4. Post Commanders and Adjutants will see that credentials for duly elected delegates to the National Convention are properly filled out and turned over to the proper representatives of the Post prior to their departure to the National Convention. Posts that have not sent in a Post Election Report form listing officers for 1985-86 will not receive credentials for the National Convention. Credentials will be mailed to Post Commanders on July 15.
5. National Headquarter offices will be open for business at The Dallas Convention Center, Dallas, Texas, from Aug. 16 through Aug. 23, 1985.
6. Posts are reminded that they must register in advance one or more delegates to the VFW National Convention (Section 222 of the National Constitution and By-Laws). Advance registration fee is six dollars (\$6.00) per delegate and should be mailed to Veterans of Foreign Wars 86th National Convention, The Hyatt Regency Hotel, 300 Reunion Boulevard, Dallas, Texas 75207. Registration at the convention will be eight dollars (\$8.00).
7. Announcement is made of the correct location of the following Post: Post 8352, Toms River, N.J.
8. The locations of the following Posts have been changed: Post 4304 from Rufus to Wasco, Ore.; Post 7969 from Bastian to Bland, Va.; and Post 9636 from Saluda to Deltaville, Va.
9. A certificate of charter evidencing consolidation has been issued to the following Posts: Post 632 and 9672 consolidated as Post 632, Harrisonburg, Va.
10. Charters for the following Posts have been authorized: Post 8, Los Angeles, Calif.; Post 5865, Springettsbury Township, Pa.; Post 7853, Chelsea, Mass.; Post 7894, Sonju-Ri, Republic of Korea; Post 9117, Delhi, La.; and Post 9212, Denver, Colo.

By Command of
BILLY RAY CAMERON
Commander-in-Chief

OFFICIAL:

Howard E. Vander Clute, Jr.
Adjutant General

REUNIONS

USS Monadnock (CM9/ACM10)—Albert Snyder, POB 21, Derwent, OH 43733.

USS Montpelier (CL57)—Richard Walker, 13310 Brandywine St. SE, Minerva, OH 44657.

USS Moole (DD693), Sumner (DD692) & Cooper—Russell Catardi, 513 County Line, Hatboro, PA 19040.

USS New Mexico (BB40)—LeRoy Miller, 8619 Villa Crest Dr., St. Louis, MO 63126.

USS Norton Sound (AV11/AVM1)—POB 487, Port Hueneme, CA 93041.

USS Omaha (CL4)—Frank Vito, 1409 Indiana NE, Albuquerque, NM 87110.

USS Ontario—James Fry, 200 N El Camino #396, Oceanside, CA 92054.

USS Osterhaus (DE164)—Melvin Frels, 18428 2d Ave., Barstow, IL 61236.

USS Philadelphia (CL41)—F.J. Amorson, 93 Dunbar St., Somerset, NJ 08873.

USS Pochard (AM375)(WWII)—Charles Gantz, 3533 Juneway, Baltimore, MD 21213.

USS Pocumoke (AV9)—Robert Schaut, 1228 Cleveland St., Green Bay, WI 54304.

USS Pyro (AE1)—Paul Simon, 52 Bluff St., Dubuque, IA 52001.

USS Quincy—Albert Levesque, 46 Foster St., Pawtucket, RI 02861.

USS R.L. Wilson (DD/DE847)—Robert Rudy, 330 S 7th St., Lebanon, PA 17402.

USS Reid (DD369)—Robert Sneed, 1537 N 59th St., Milwaukee, WI 53208.

USS Robinson (DD562)—Don Fahlberg, 3661 41st St. #12, Moline, IL 61265.

USS Rodman (DD456/DMS21)—Ed Cahpman, 36 Rossen Pl., Bloomfield, NJ 07003.

USS Salt Lake City (CA25)—Syd Foster, 4433 Albartross Way, Oceanside, CA 92056.

USS San Juan—William Carpenter, 1119 Aquia Dr., Stafford, VA 22554.

USS San Francisco (CA38)—Ed Wirtler, 2949 Flannery Rd., San Pablo, CA 94806.

USS Saratoga (CV3)—P.B. Tonelli, 6382 Cantiles Ave., Cypress, CA 90630.

USS Scott (DE214)—Jack Kegley, 26 Thornrose Ave., Staunton, VA 24401.

USS Shea—Roger Conway, 1330 New Hampshire Ave. NW, Washington, D.C. 20036.

USS Slack (DD406)—W.W. Price, 313 Sussex Ct., Wilmington, NC 28405.

USS Stephen Potter (DD538)—Don Houston, 19202 20th NW, Seattle, WA 98177.

USS Terror (CM5)—Marshall Mickey, 47 Westwood Ave., Napa, CA 94558.

USS Thornhill (DE195)—Henry Cetkowski, RR 2 Box 531, Titusville, NJ

USS Trathen (DD530)—K.I. Nagel, 8 W Sunnyside, St. Peters, MO 63376.

USS Vincennes (CL64)—James Thomas, 34 Lakeview Ave., Holbrook, MA 02343.

USS Waller (DD466)—Jack Youngs, 561 Hilbar Lane, Palo Alto, CA 94303.

USS Washburn (AKA108)(WWII)—Frank Diveny, 540 Broughton Ave., Bloomfield, NJ 07003.

USS Washington (BB56)—John Brown, POB 13047, Columbus, OH 43213-0047.

USS Waap (CV7)—Wally Burnell, 317 Sawmill Rd., New Whiteland, IN 46184.

USS Wasp (CV7)—Duffy McDonough, 425 S Michigan Ave., Big Rapids, MI 49307.

USS West Virginia (BB48)—Lou Grabinski, 1023 Appleton St. #2, Long Beach, CA 90802.

USS Wichita (CA45) & Tuscaloosa (CA37)—John d'Ercole, 122 Eaton Ave., Hamilton, OH 45013.

USS YMS 52—Ira Holmes, 32602 Walnut Creek, Magnolia, TX 77355.

USS Zellars (DD777)—Marion Krawczyk, 3489 Dunhaven Rd., Dundalk, MD 21222.

VC-7—Carl Bandy, POB 944, Delta Junction, AK 99757.

VPB-27—Edgar Francis, POB 731, Odessa, TX 79760.

VPB-117—R.J. Mallett, 7340 Granbury Circle, St. Louis, MO 63123.

VP/VPB-135—Silvin Pribyl, 1540 Bigelow Ave., Owatonna, MN 55060.

VT-86—Robert Massey, 1733 E Holiday, Springfield, MO

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